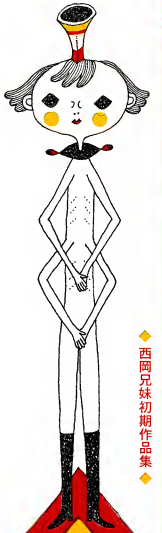
BOKUMUSHI
NISHIOKA
BRO. & SIS.

Me Bug

ぼくら

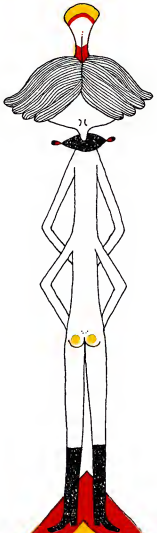
西岡兄妹

◆西岡兄妹初期作品集◆



ぼくら
◆西岡兄妹初期作品集◆
西岡兄妹

青林工藝舎

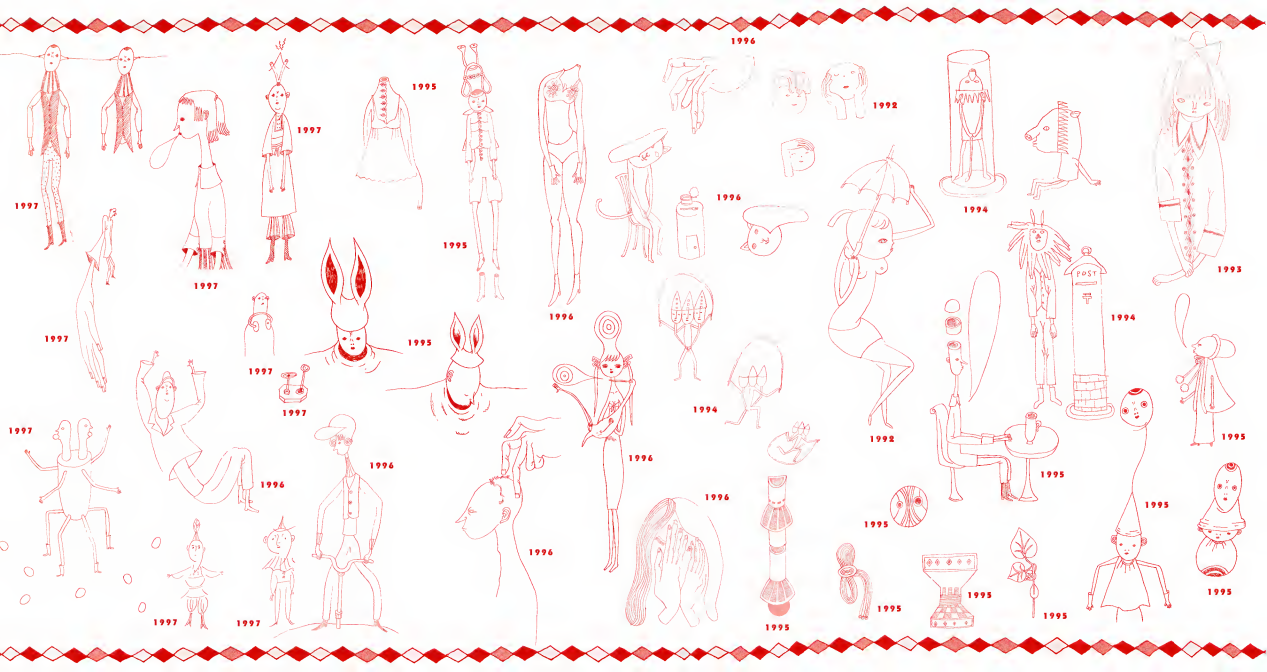


ぼくセン

西岡兄妹

BOKUMUSHI
NISHIOKA
BRO. & SIS.

BOKUMUSHI
NISHIOKA
BRO. & SIS.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まだ足りない
あと999962人
死ななければならない
まだ足りない
あと999961人
死ななければならない
TO BE CONTINUED

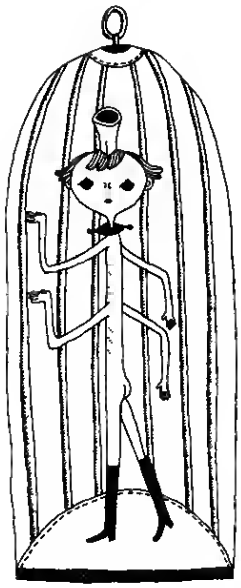
◆西岡兄妹初期作品集◆

Me Bug

B●KUMUSHI
NISHI●KA
BR●. & SIS.

西岡兄妹

青林工藝舎



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CLEANING &
QC: LAIKA &
NIGHTSWAN

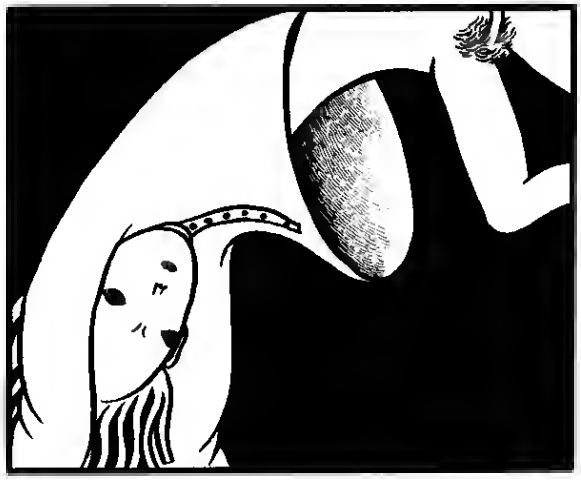
RAWS:
ELEMHUNTER

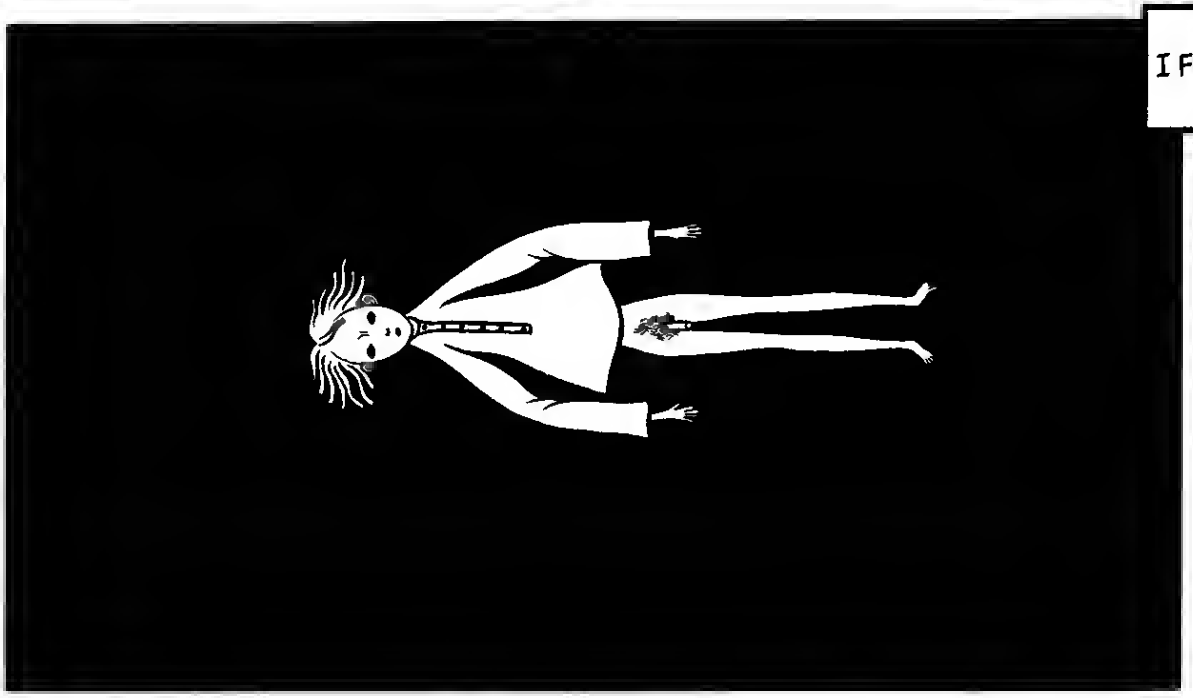
TRANSLATING:
MEGCHAN

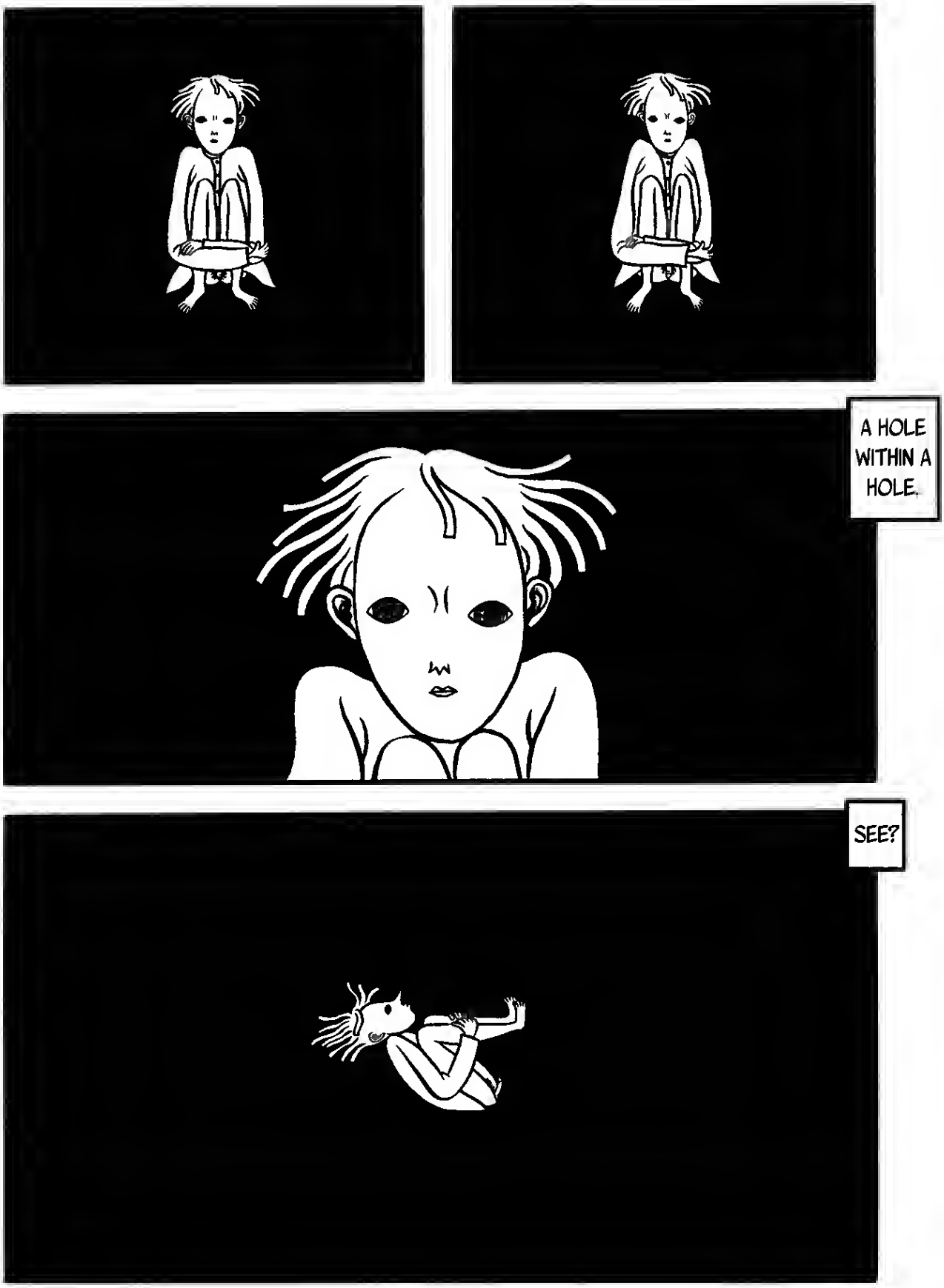
TYPESETTING:
NIGHTSWAN

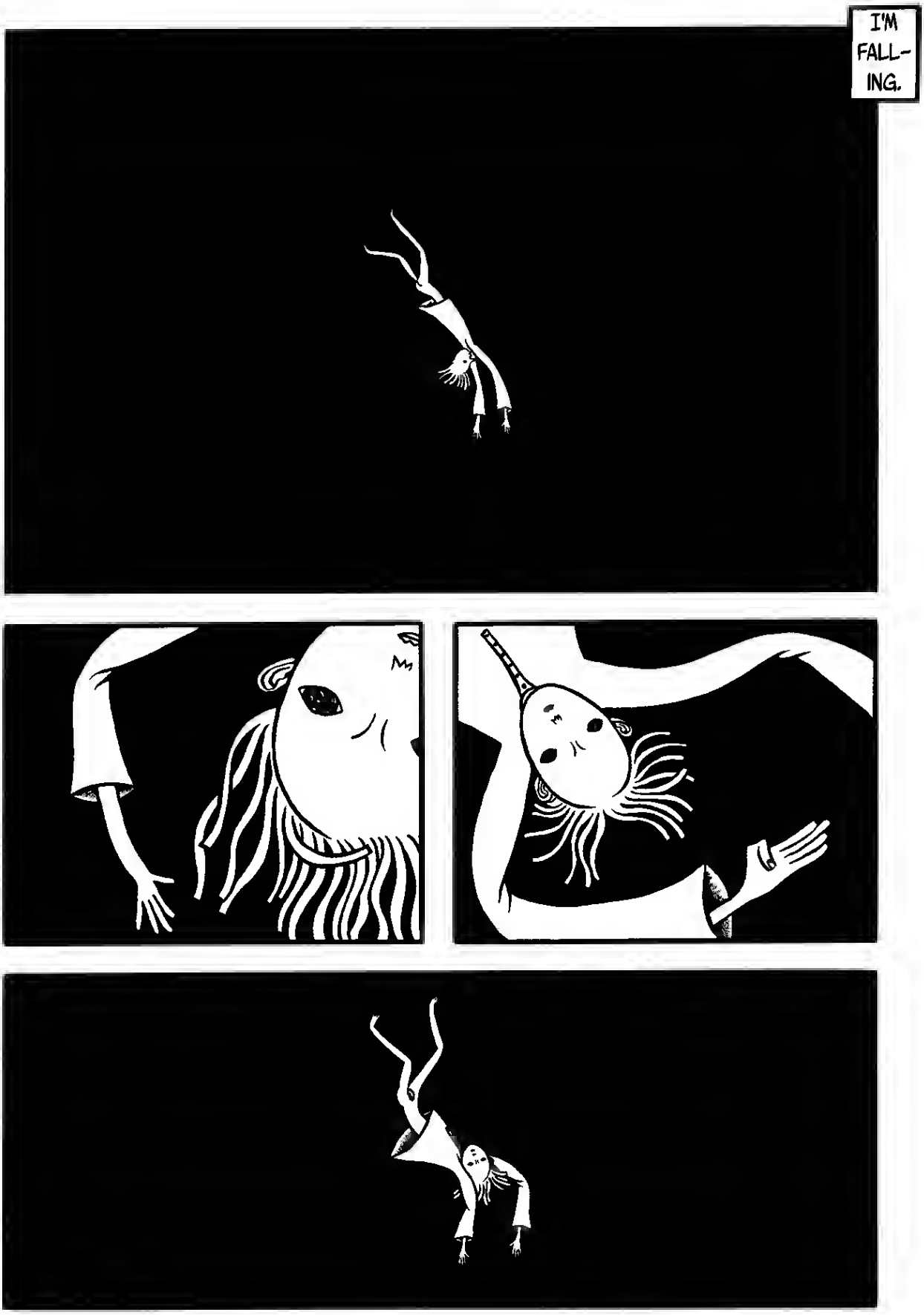
PEPPERANON.BLOGSPOT.CO.IL MANGA.MEGCHAN.COM/BLOG HOTCAKES.CC.NF

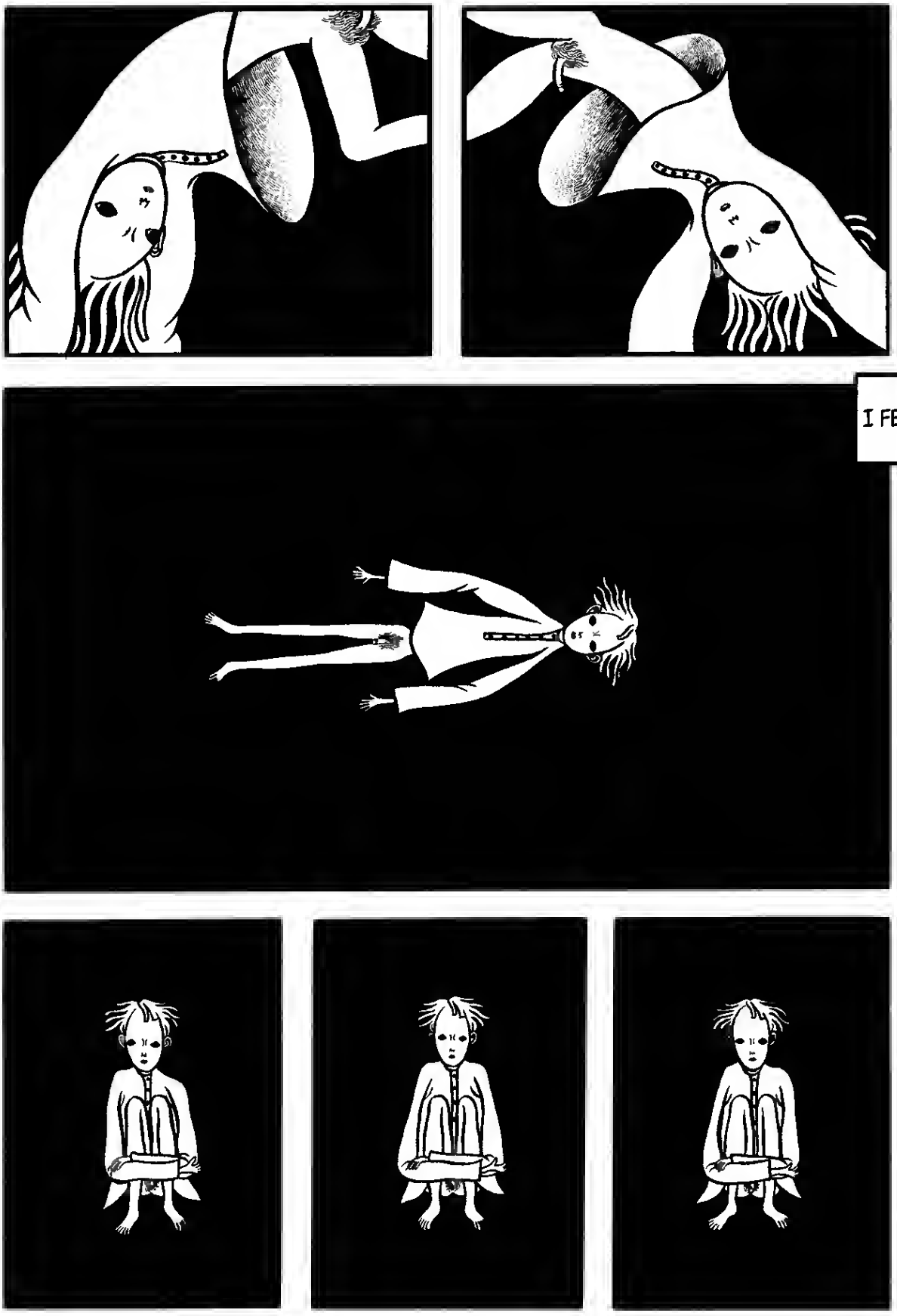
JUMP

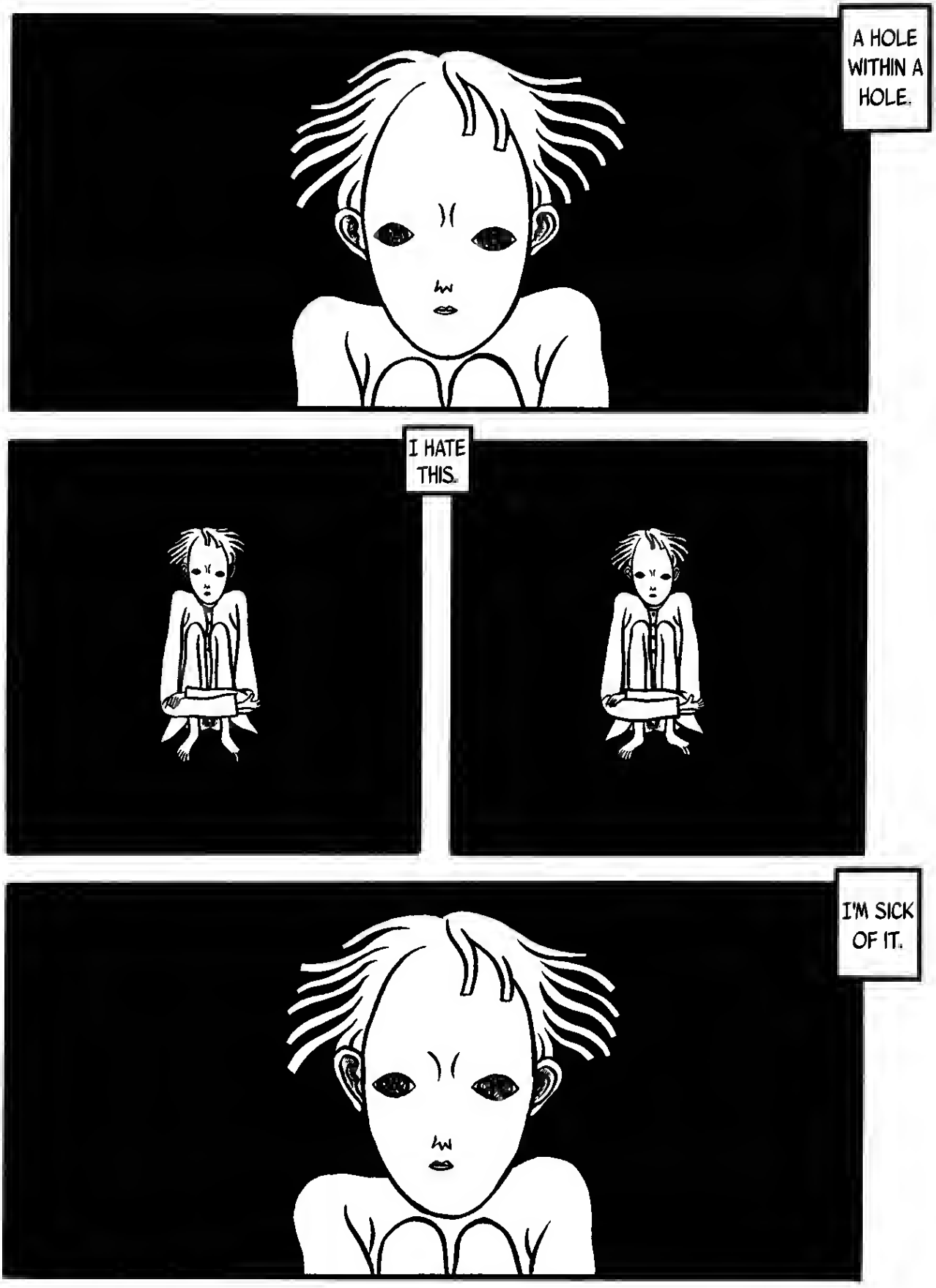


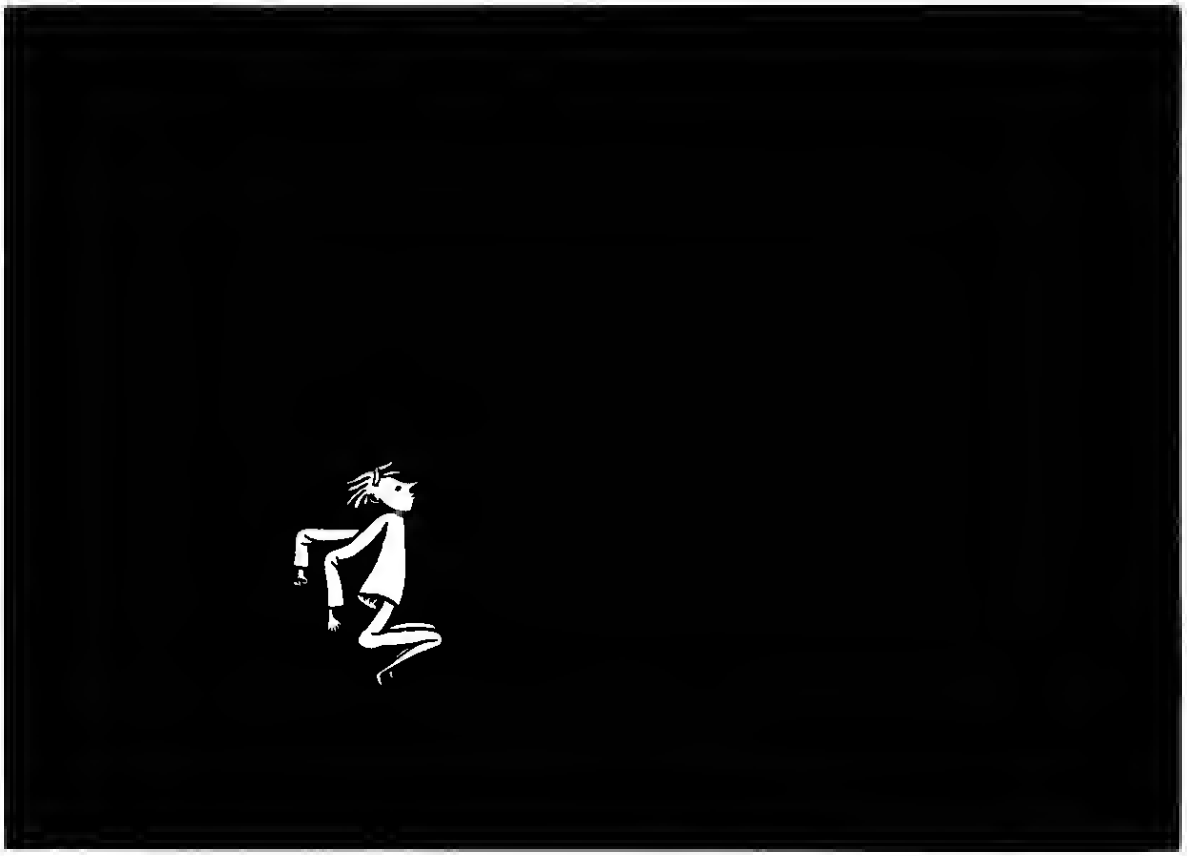

I FELL.


A HOLE WITHIN A HOLE.
SEE?

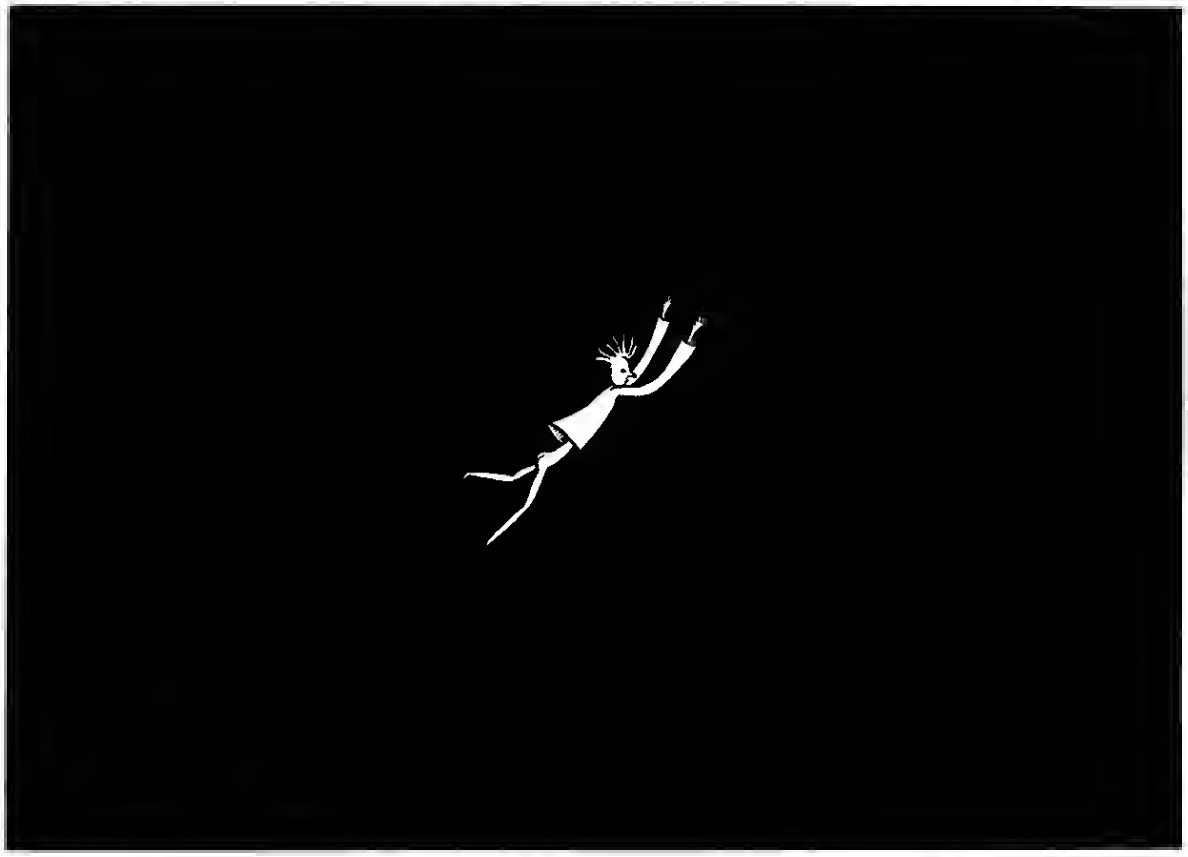

I'M FALL-ING.


I FELL.


A HOLE WITHIN A HOLE.
I HATE THIS.
I'M SICK OF IT.



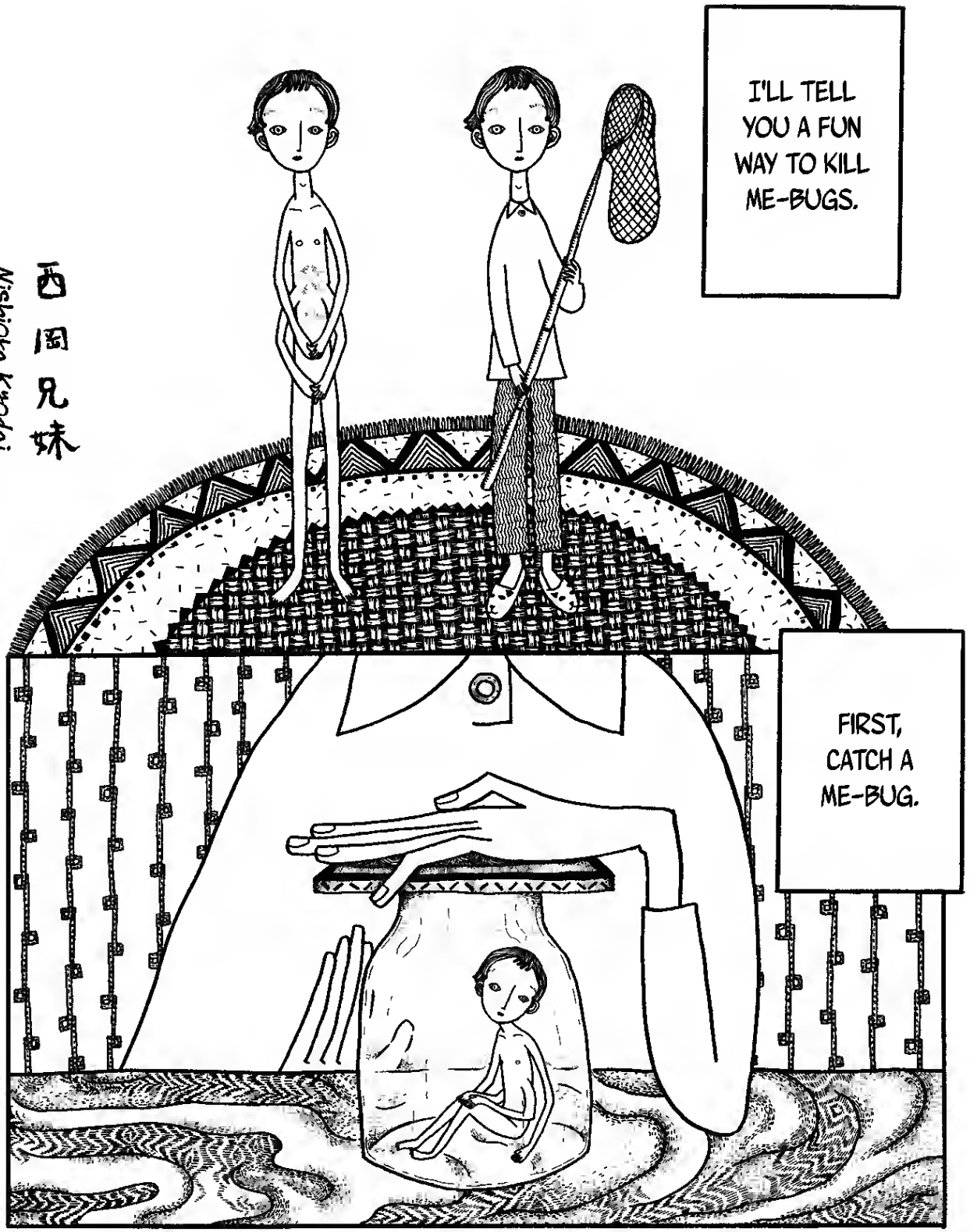
JUMP.

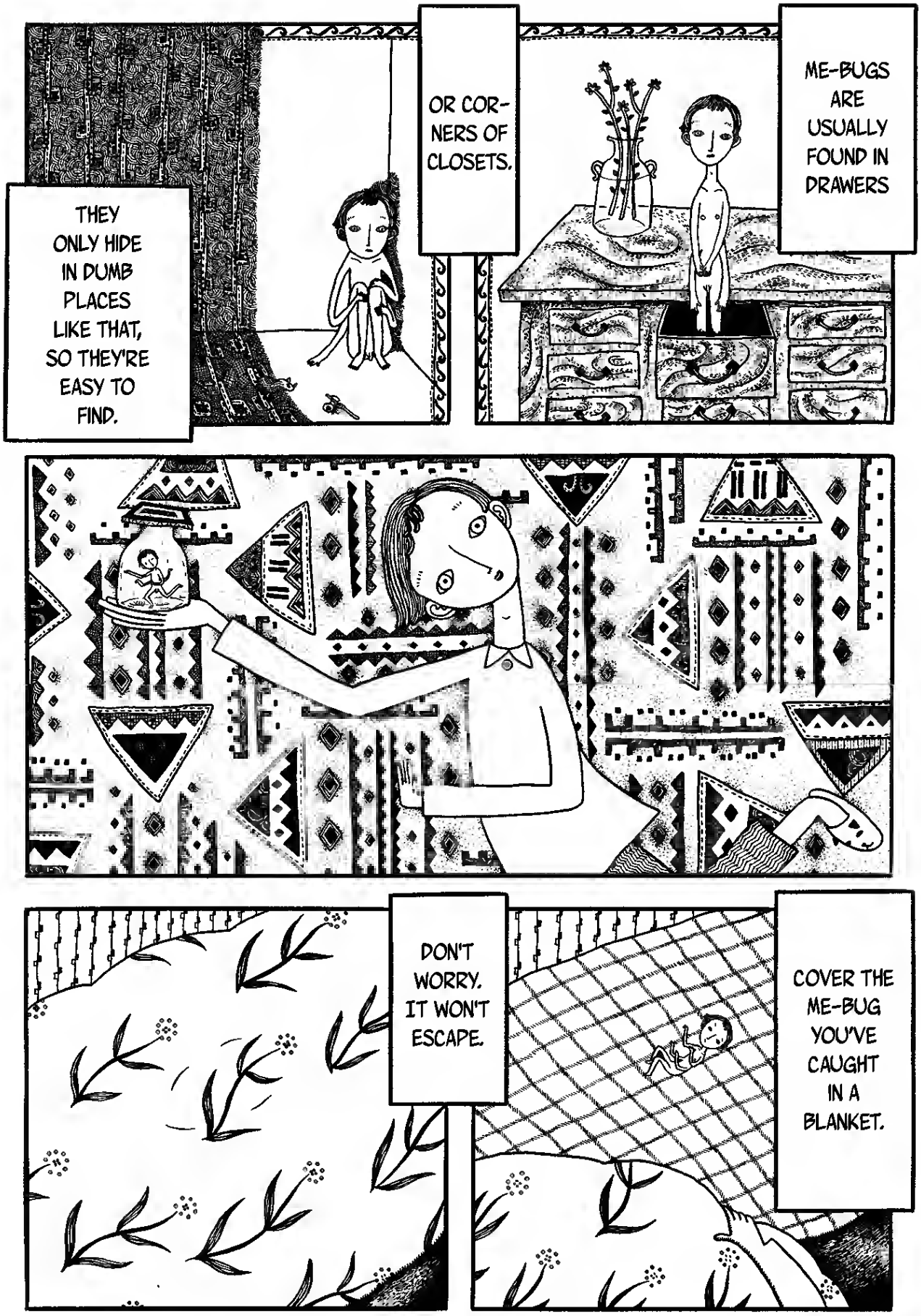


The End

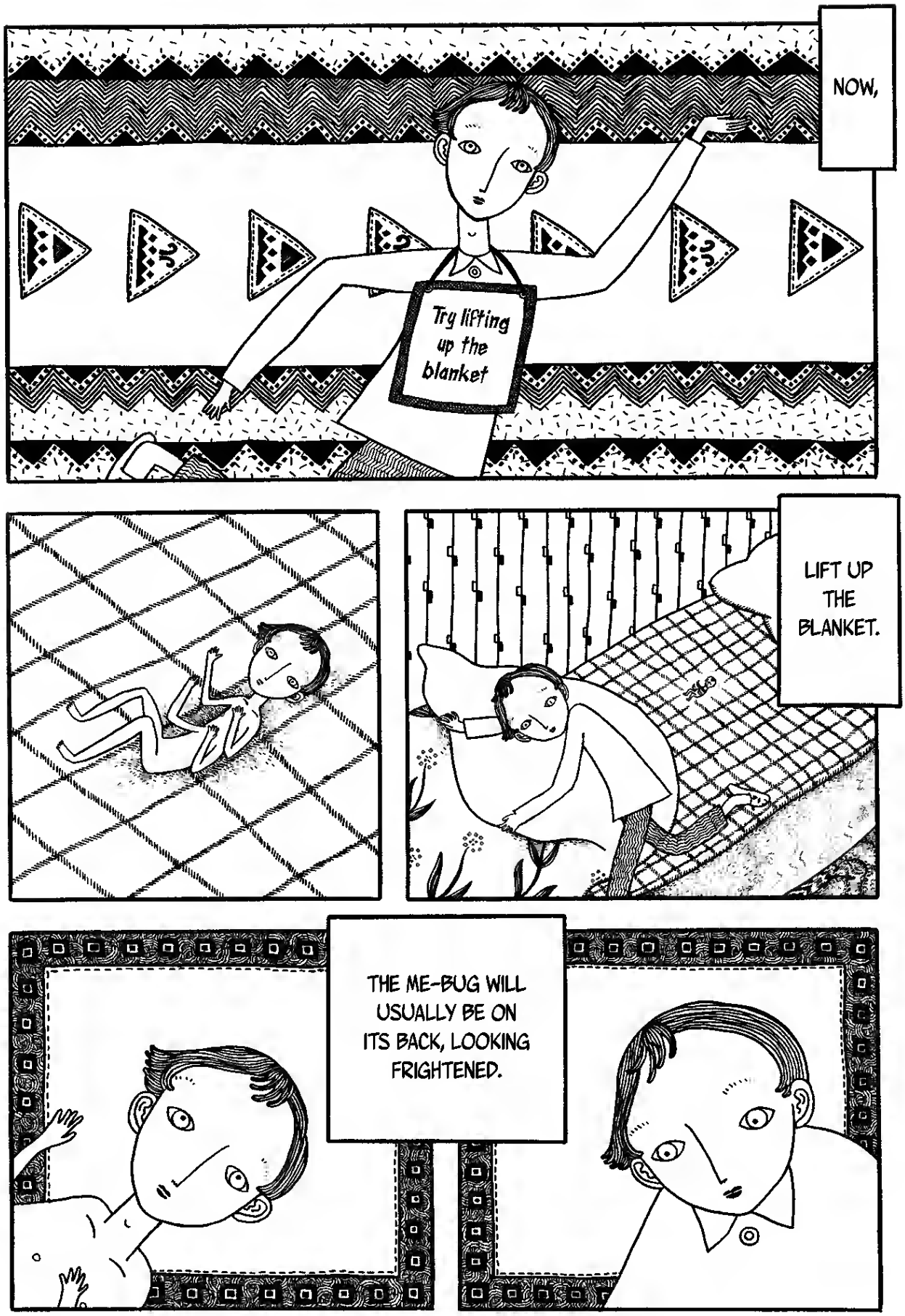
Me-Bug

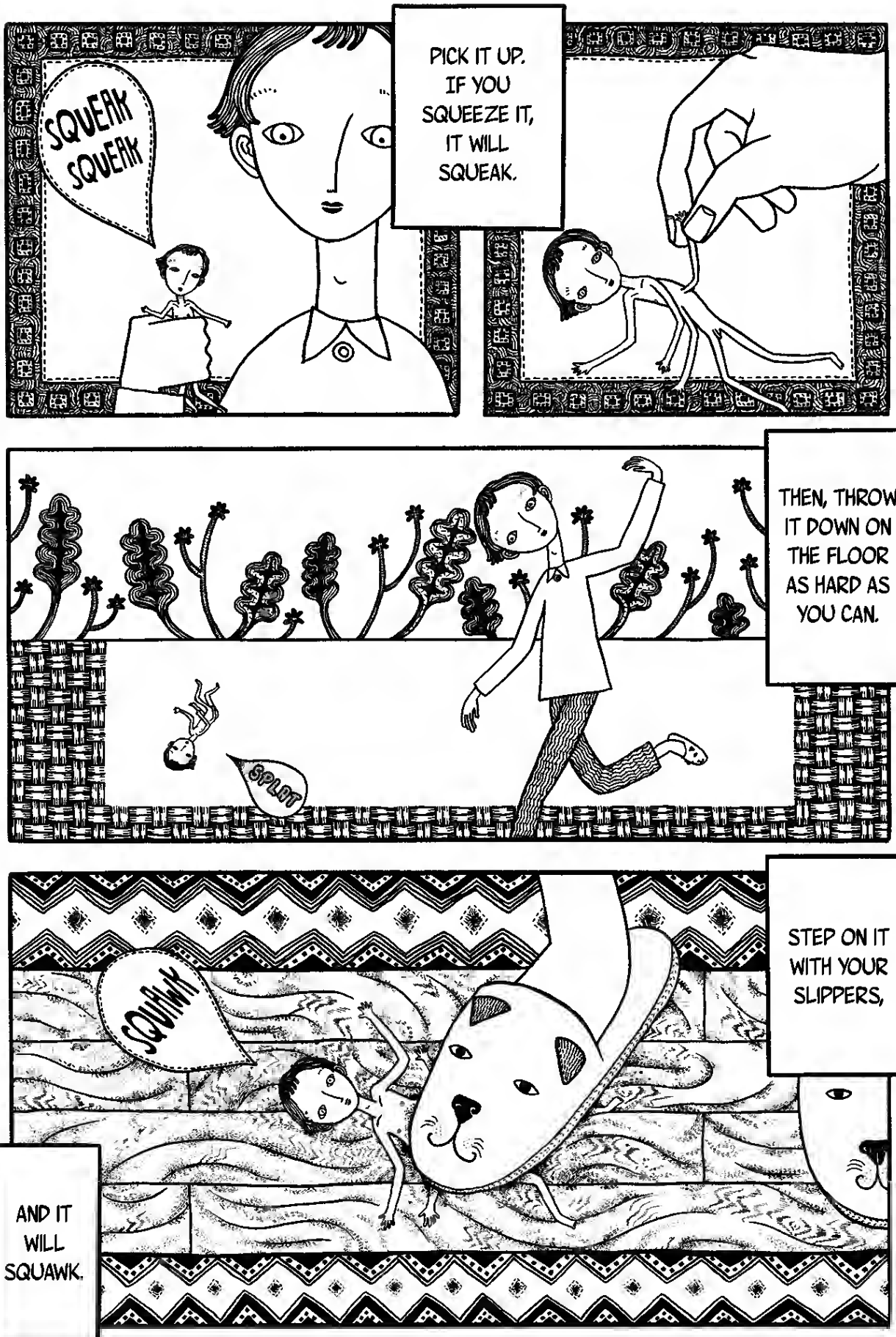
西岡兄妹
Nishioka Kyodai




THEY ONLY HIDE IN DUMB PLACES LIKE THAT, SO THEY'RE EASY TO FIND.
OR CORNERS OF CLOSETS.
ME-BUGS ARE USUALLY FOUND IN DRAWERS
DON'T WORRY. IT WON'T ESCAPE.
COVER THE ME-BUG YOU'VE CAUGHT IN A BLANKET.

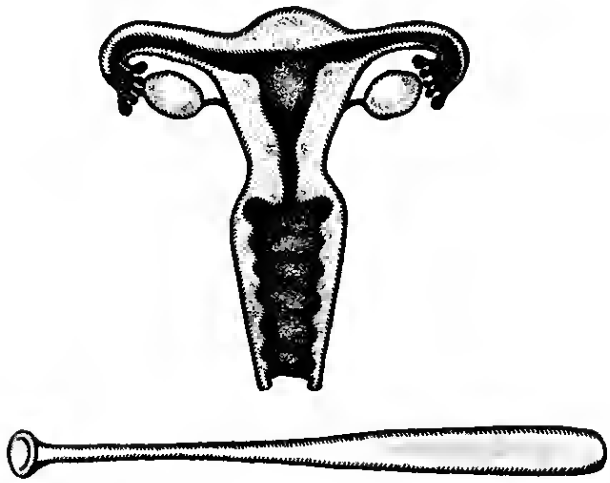
ABOUT 10 CARDS SHOULD DO IT.
THEN MAKE SOME HINT CARDS.
THEN, THE LAST ONE
OR "CHECK UNDER THE TV".
Open the toilet lid
LIKE: "OPEN THE TOILET LID",
Open the toilet lid
(IT'S FUN TO WRITE THE HINT CARDS IN THE FORM OF QUIZ QUESTIONS, TOO.)
Try lifting up the blanket
SHOULD BE, "TRY LIFTING UP THE BLANKET".

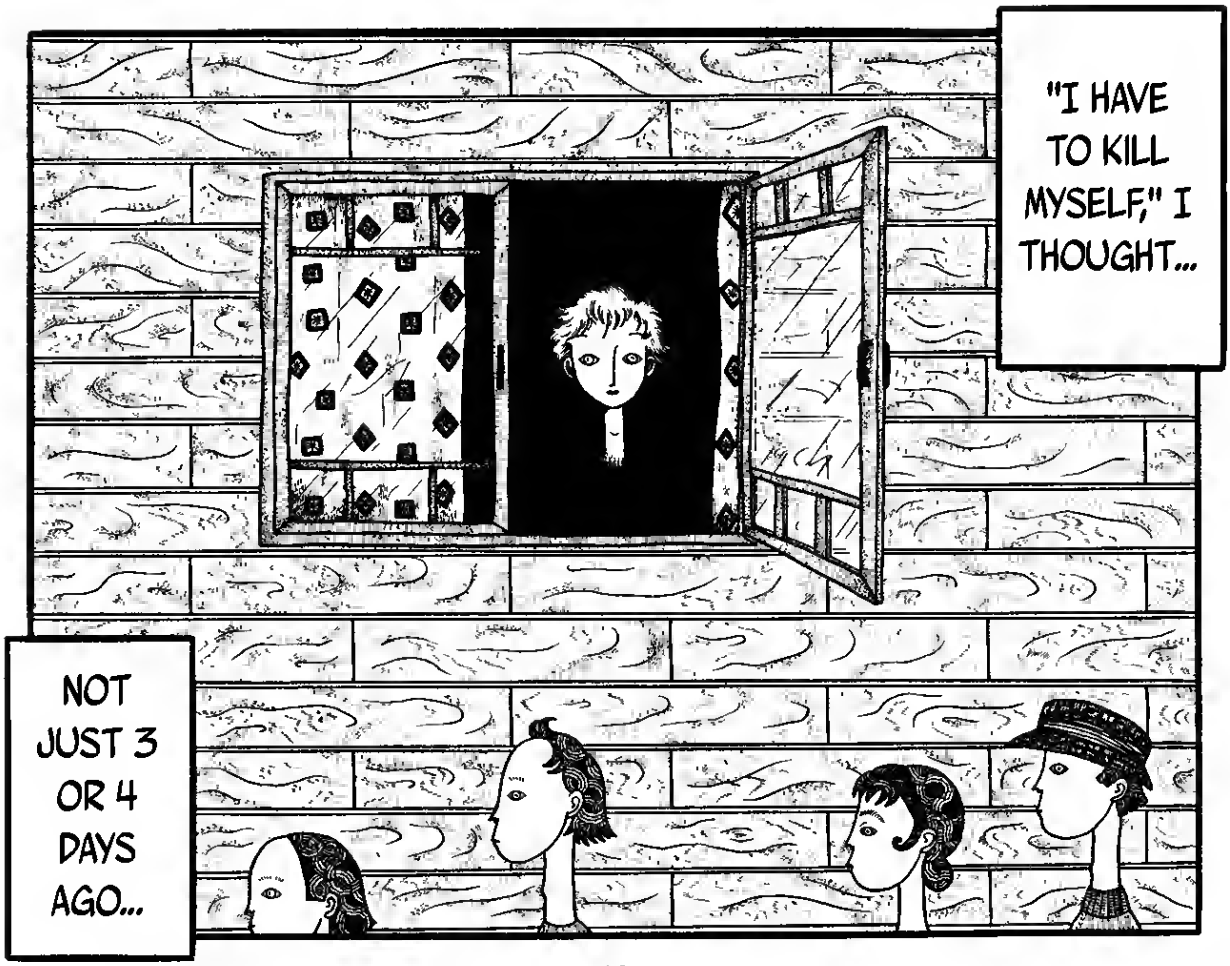

NOW,
Try lifting up the blanket
LIFT UP THE BLANKET.
THE ME-BUG WILL USUALLY BE ON ITS BACK, LOOKING FRIGHTENED.

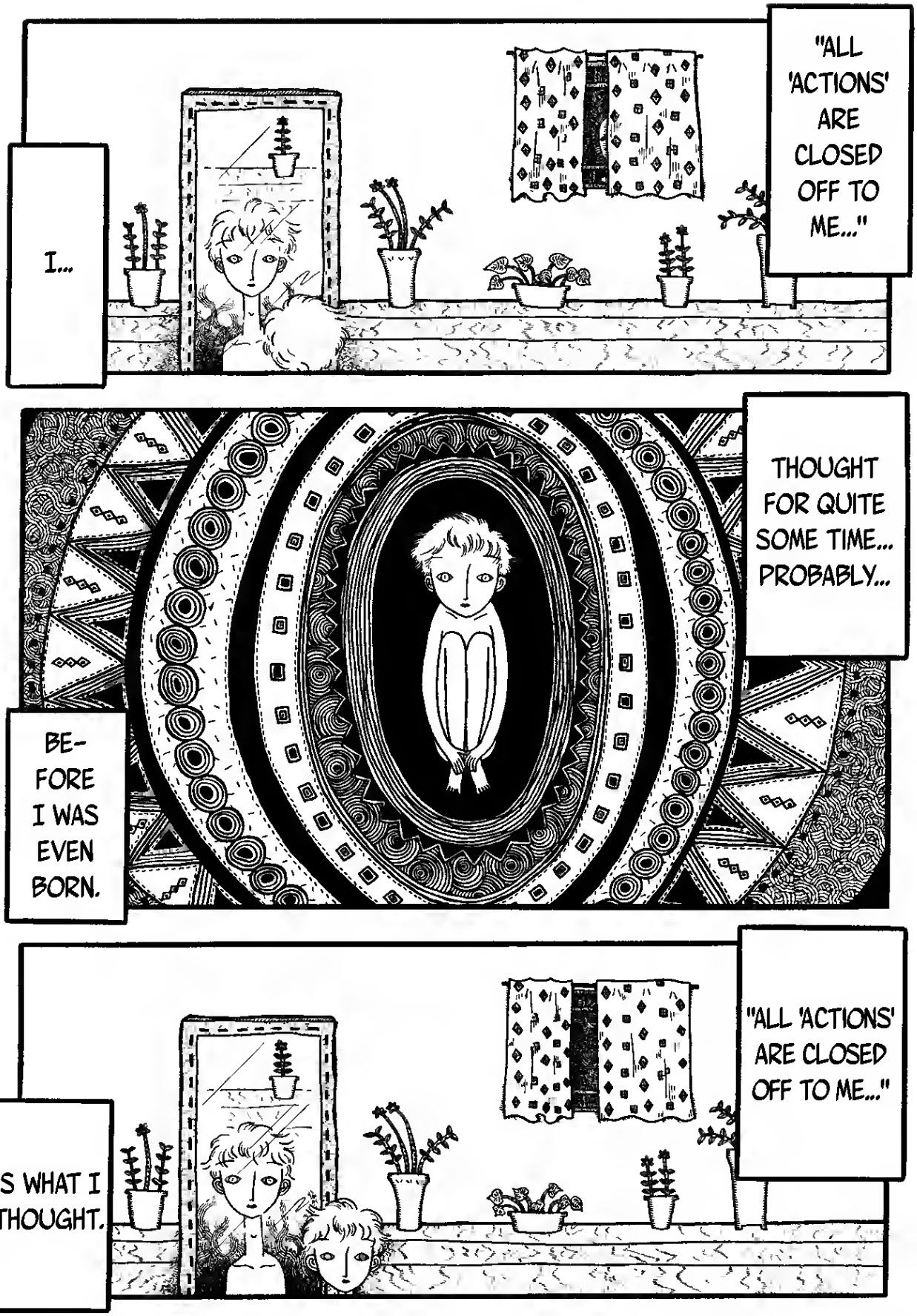

SQUEAK SQUEAK
PICK IT UP. IF YOU SQUEEZE IT, IT WILL SQUEAK.
SPLAT
THEN, THROW IT DOWN ON THE FLOOR AS HARD AS YOU CAN.
SQUAWK
STEP ON IT WITH YOUR SLIPPERS,
AND IT WILL SQUAWK.

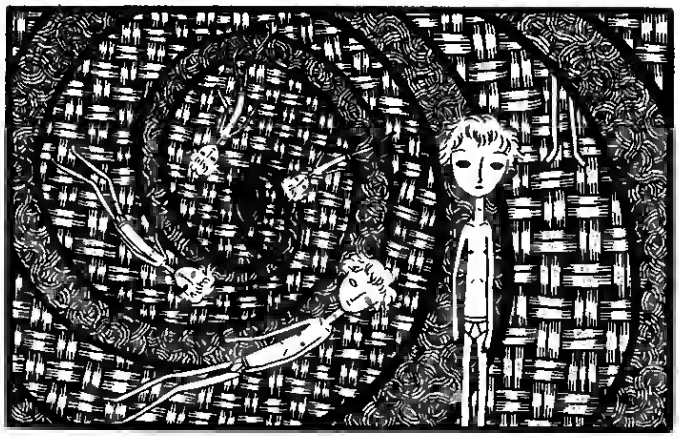
The End

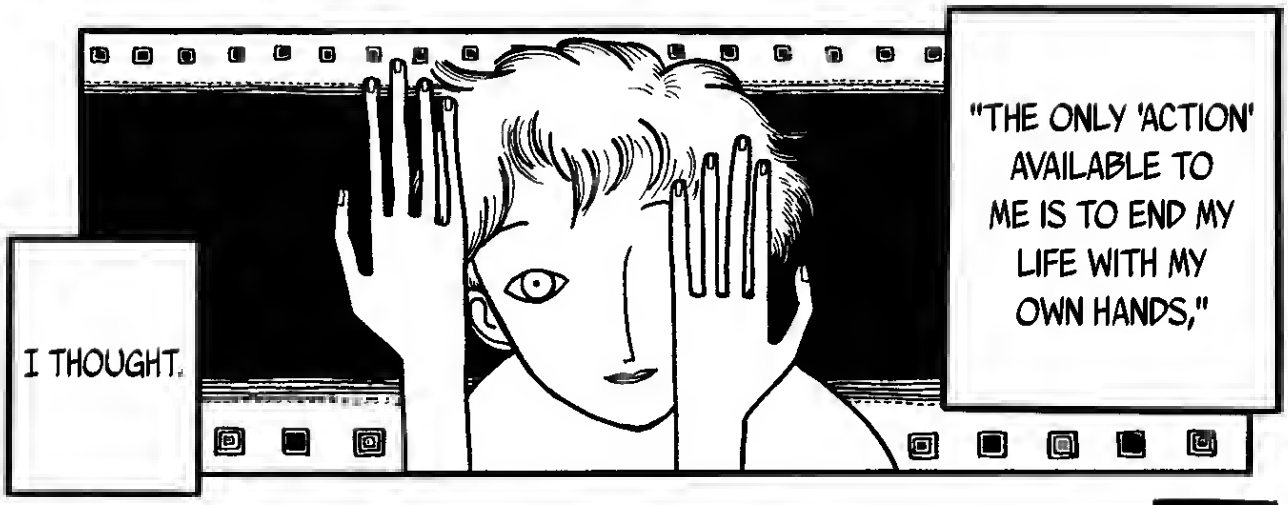
SUICIDE WITH A METAL BAT

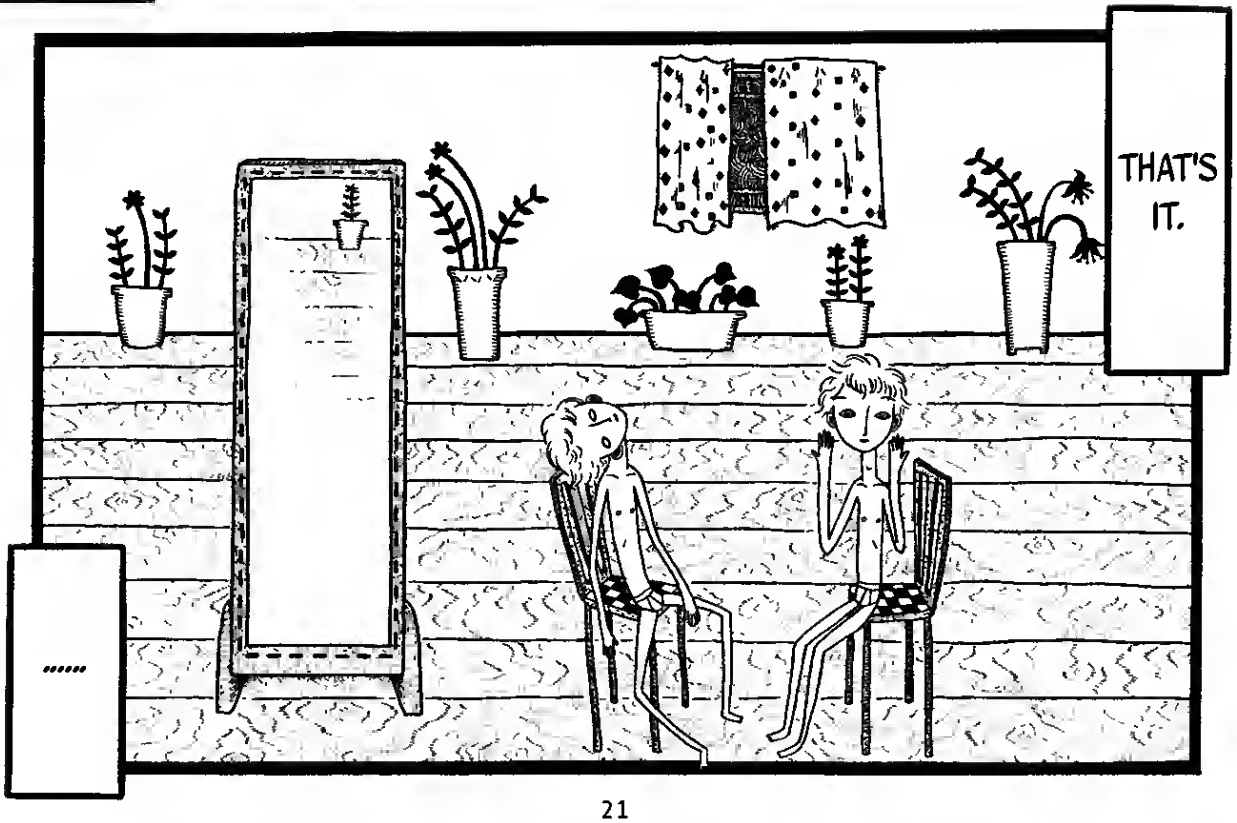


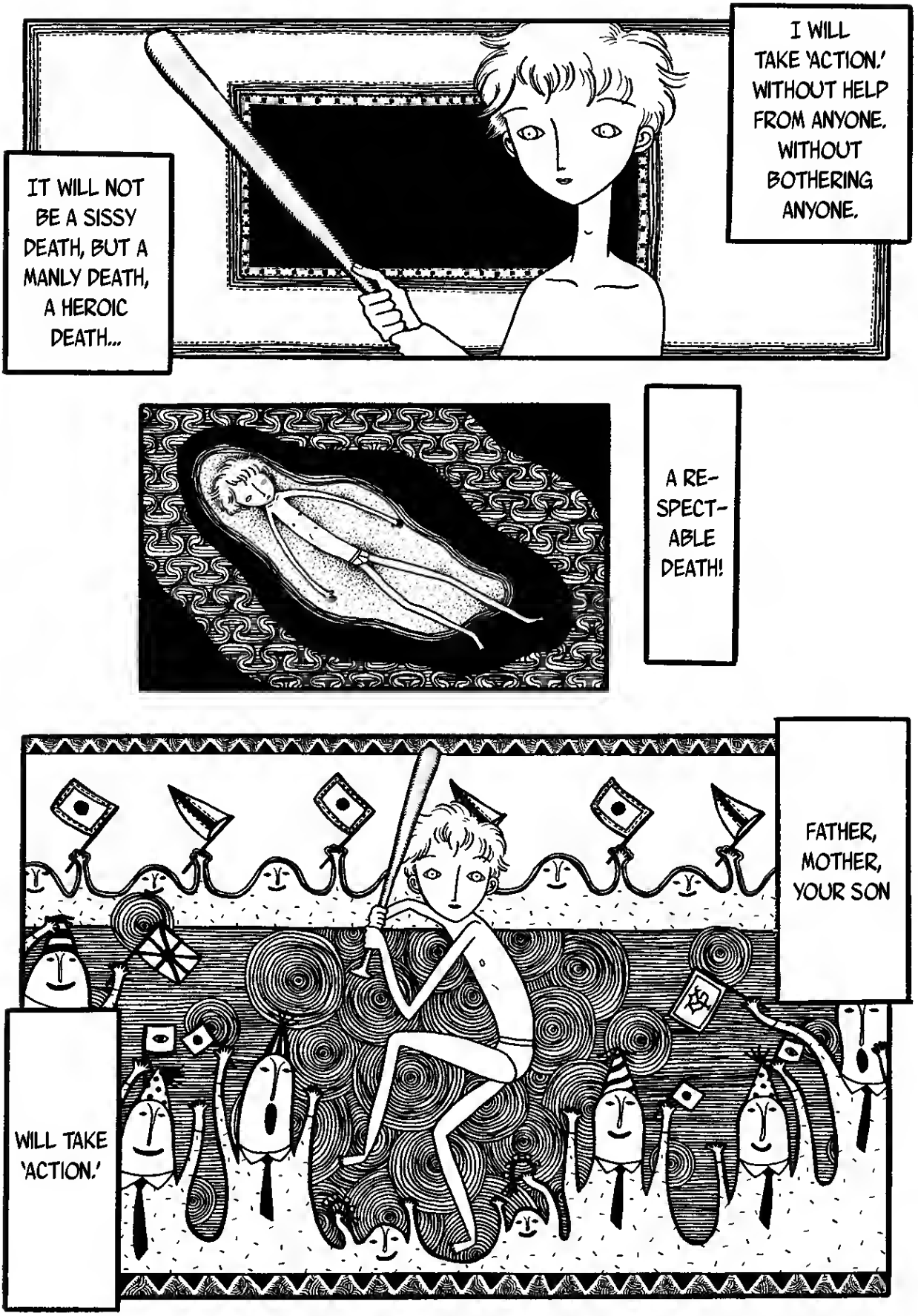


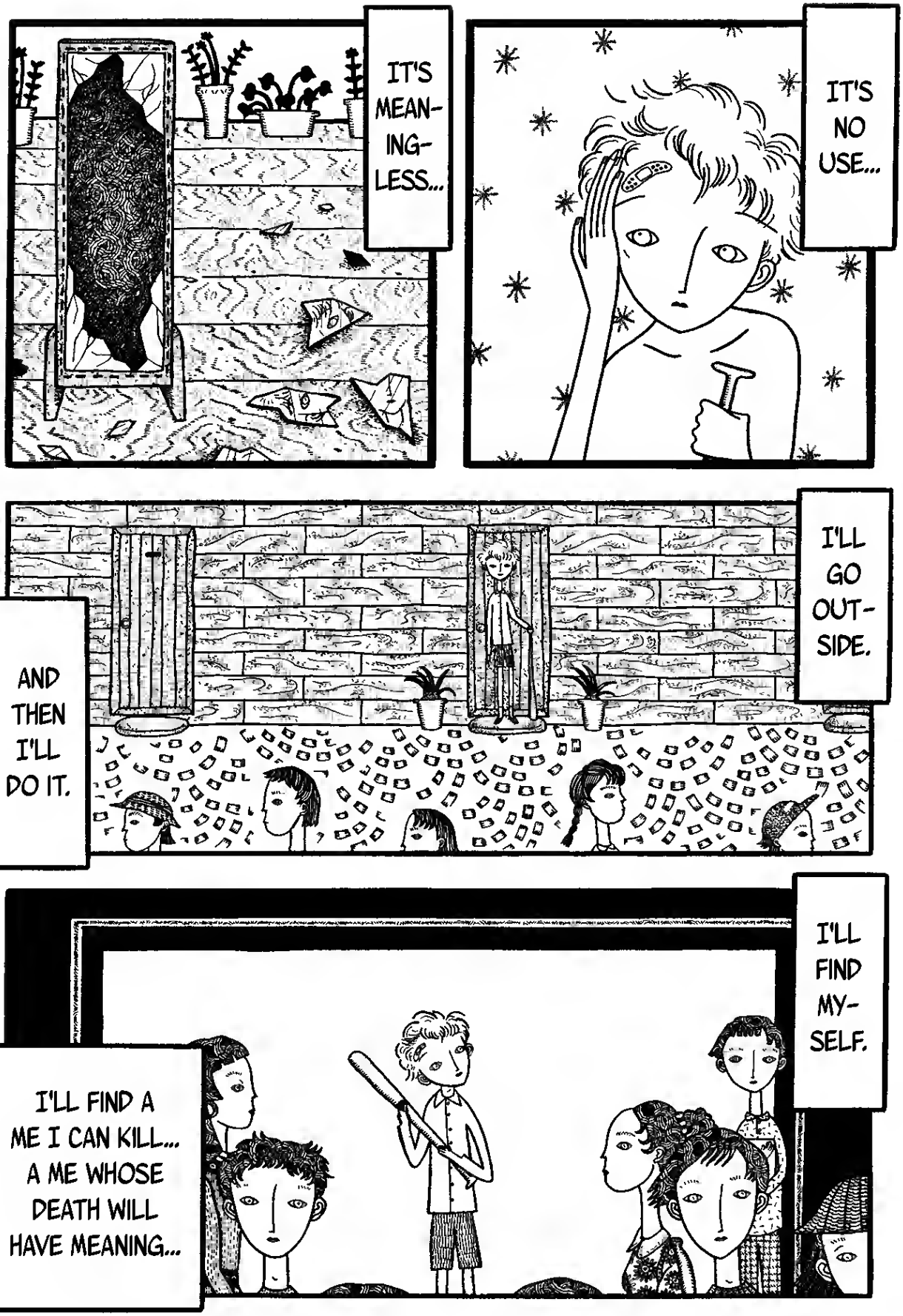

I...
"ALL 'ACTIONS' ARE CLOSED OFF TO ME..."
BE-FORE I WAS EVEN BORN.
THOUGHT FOR QUITE SOME TIME... PROBABLY...
IS WHAT I THOUGHT.
"ALL 'ACTIONS' ARE CLOSED OFF TO ME..."

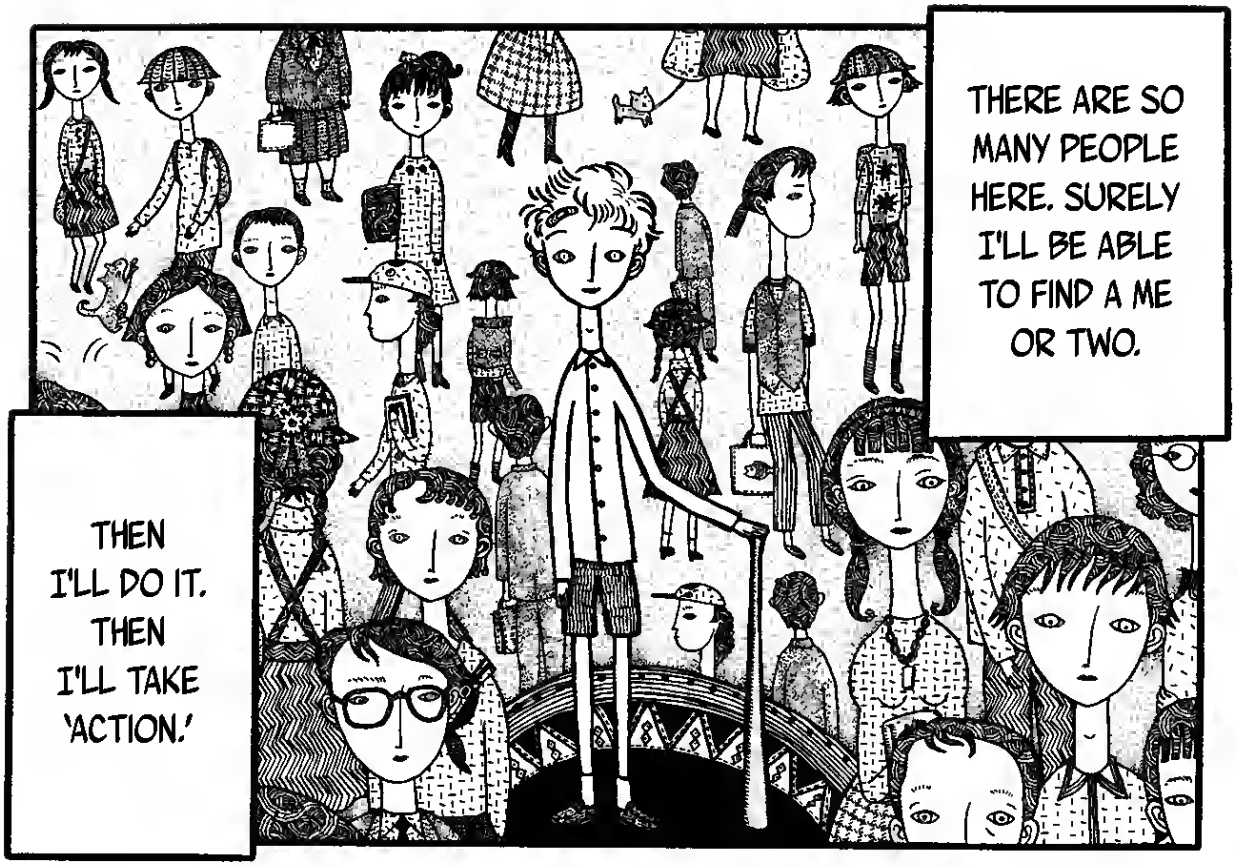


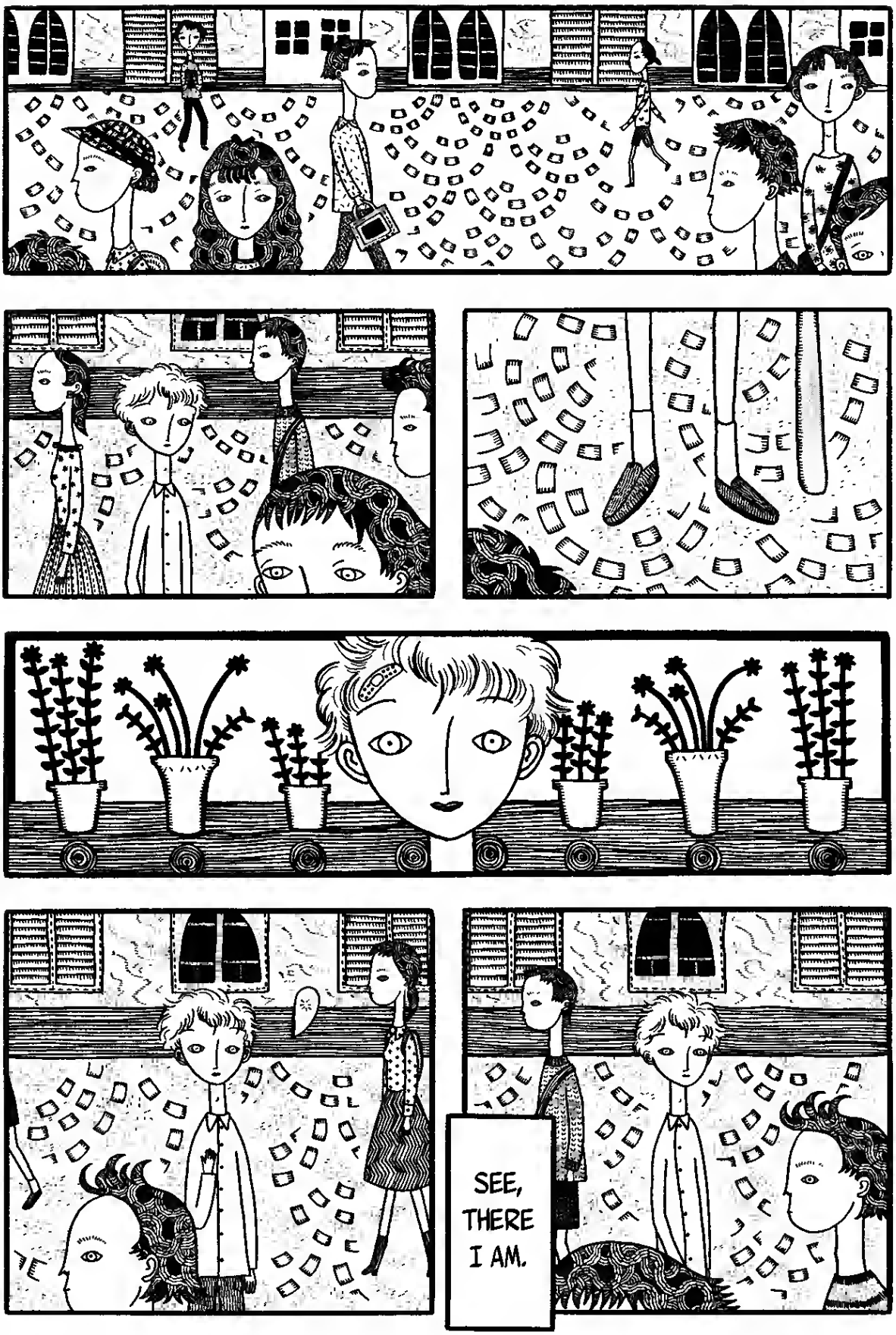

I THOUGHT.
"THE ONLY 'ACTION' AVAILABLE TO ME IS TO END MY LIFE WITH MY OWN HANDS,"

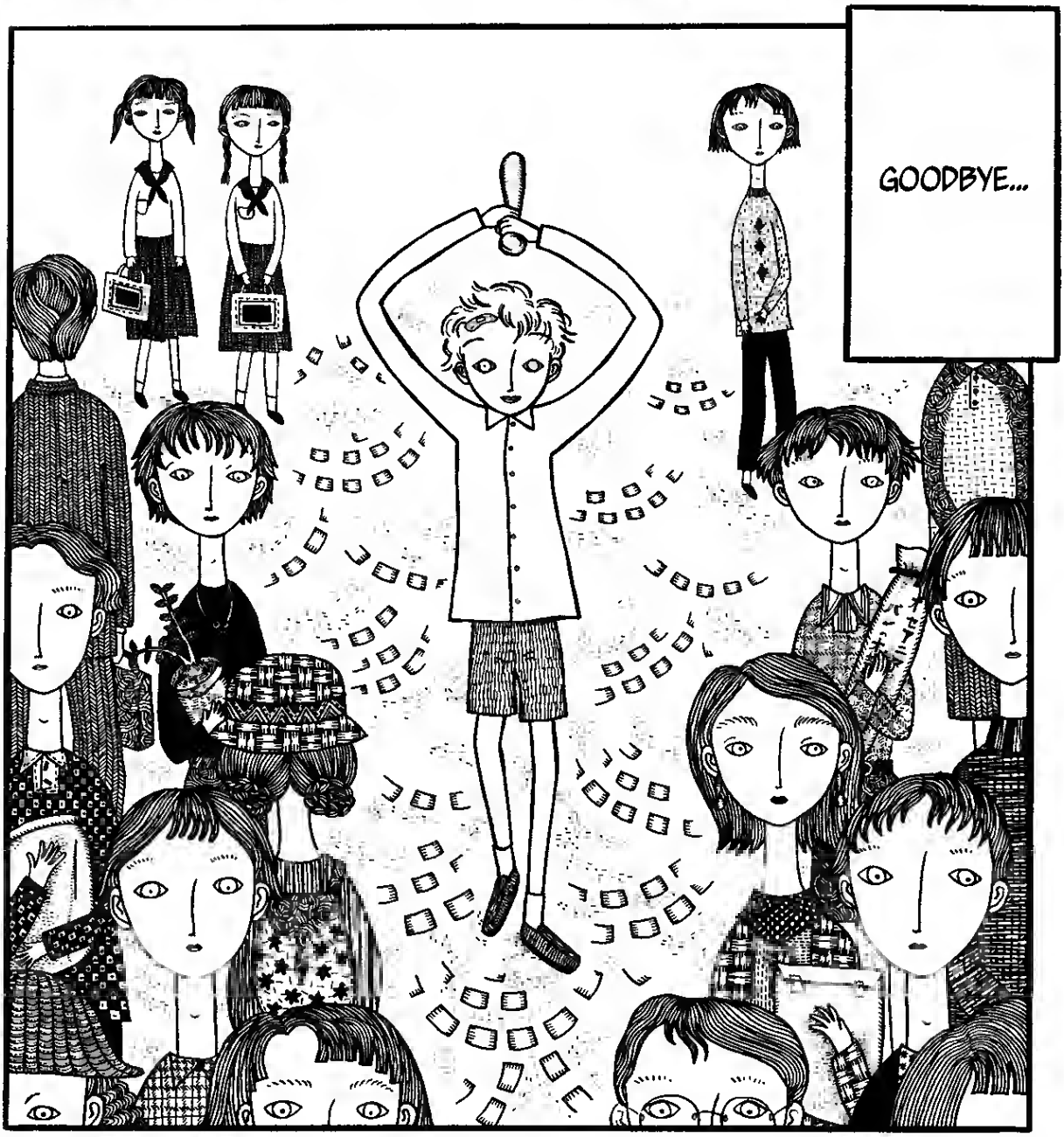

.....
THAT'S IT.


I WILL TAKE 'ACTION.' WITHOUT HELP FROM ANYONE. WITHOUT BOTHERING ANYONE.
IT WILL NOT BE A SISSY DEATH, BUT A MANLY DEATH, A HEROIC DEATH...
A RE-SPECT-ABLE DEATH!
FATHER, MOTHER, YOUR SON
WILL TAKE 'ACTION.'


IT'S MEAN-ING-LESS...
IT'S NO USE...
I'LL GO OUT-SIDE.
AND THEN I'LL DO IT.
I'LL FIND MY-SELF.
I'LL FIND A ME I CAN KILL... A ME WHOSE DEATH WILL HAVE MEANING...

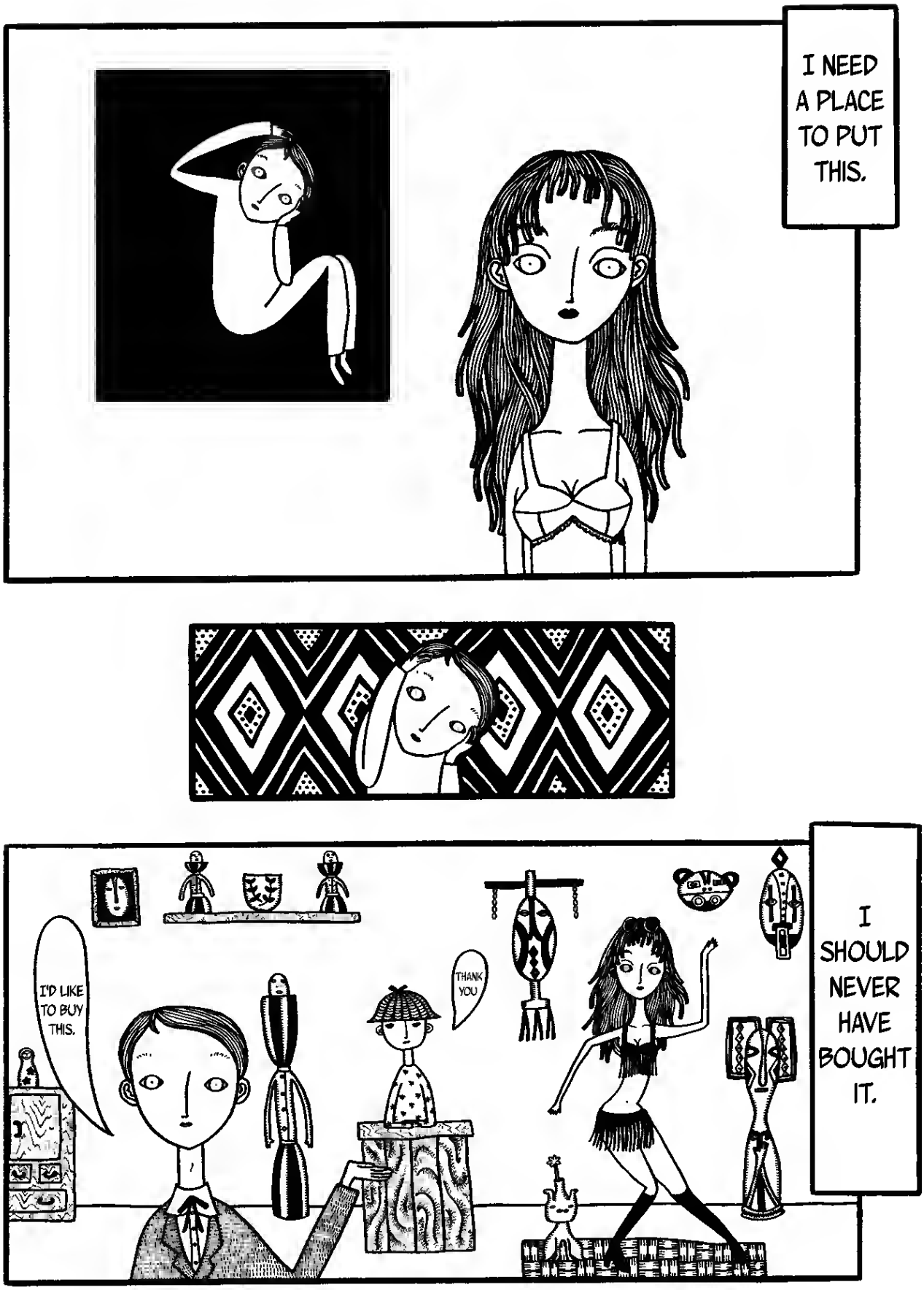

THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE HERE. SURELY I'LL BE ABLE TO FIND A ME OR TWO.
THEN I'LL DO IT. THEN I'LL TAKE 'ACTION.'

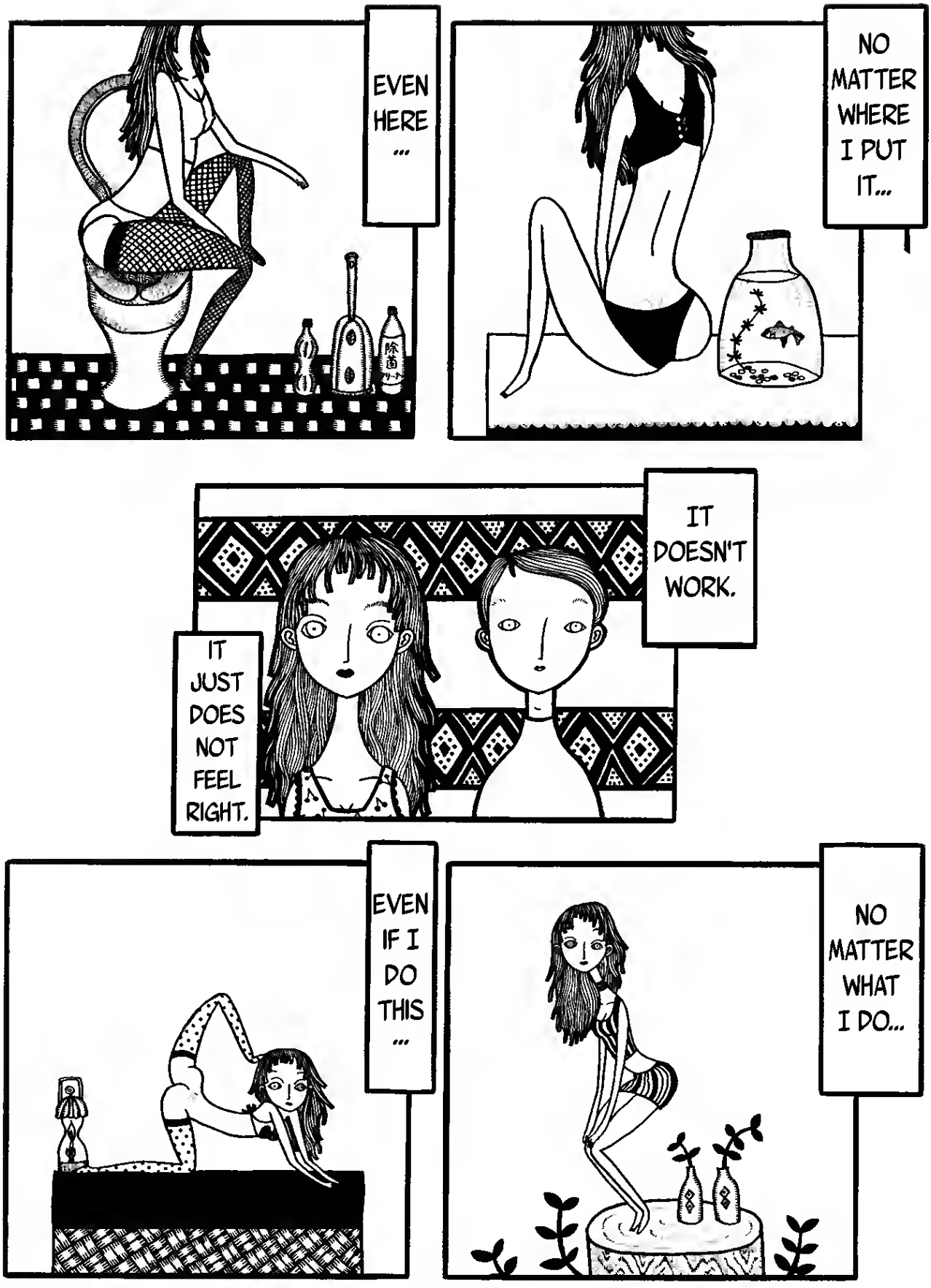

SEE, THERE I AM.

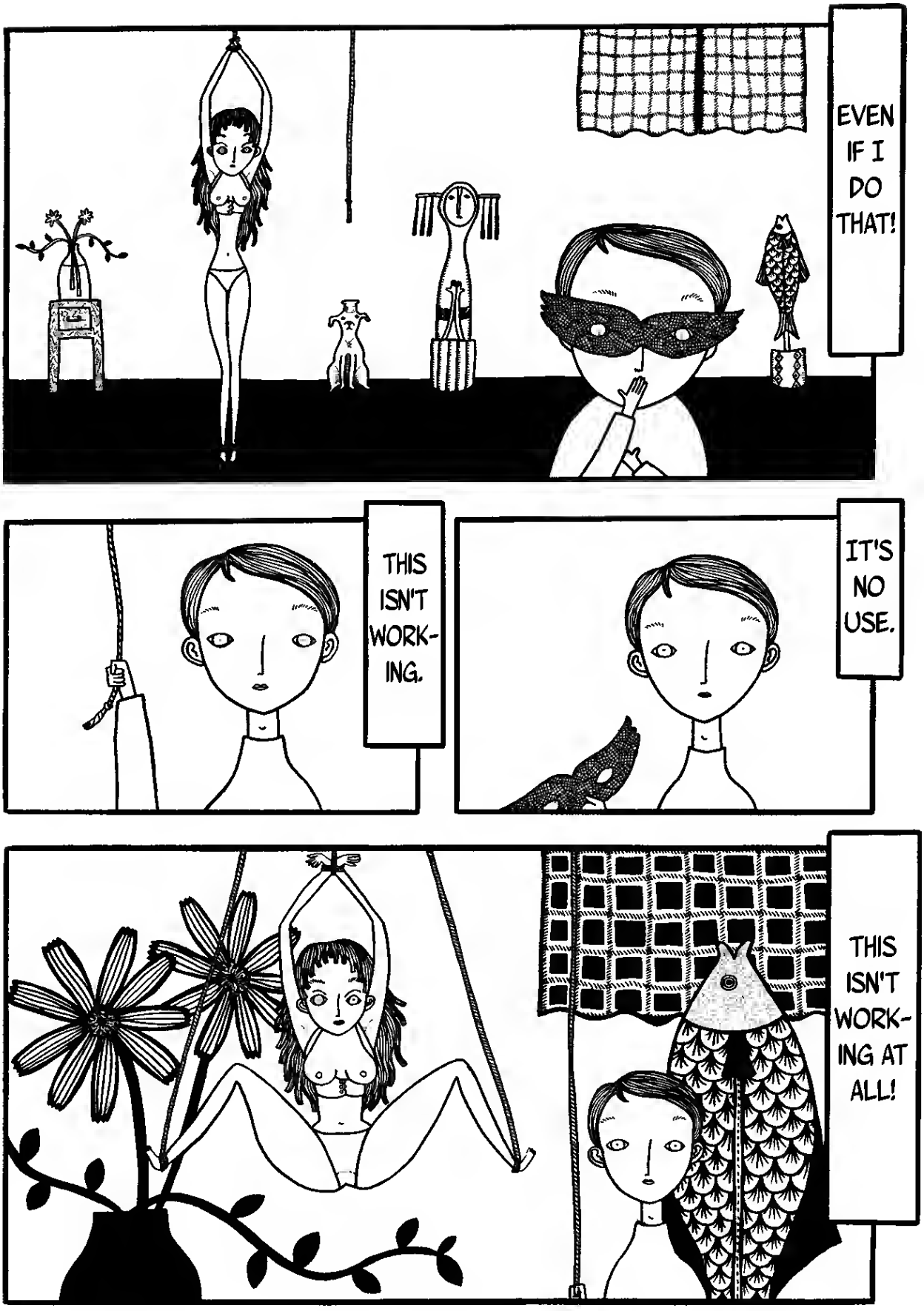


The End

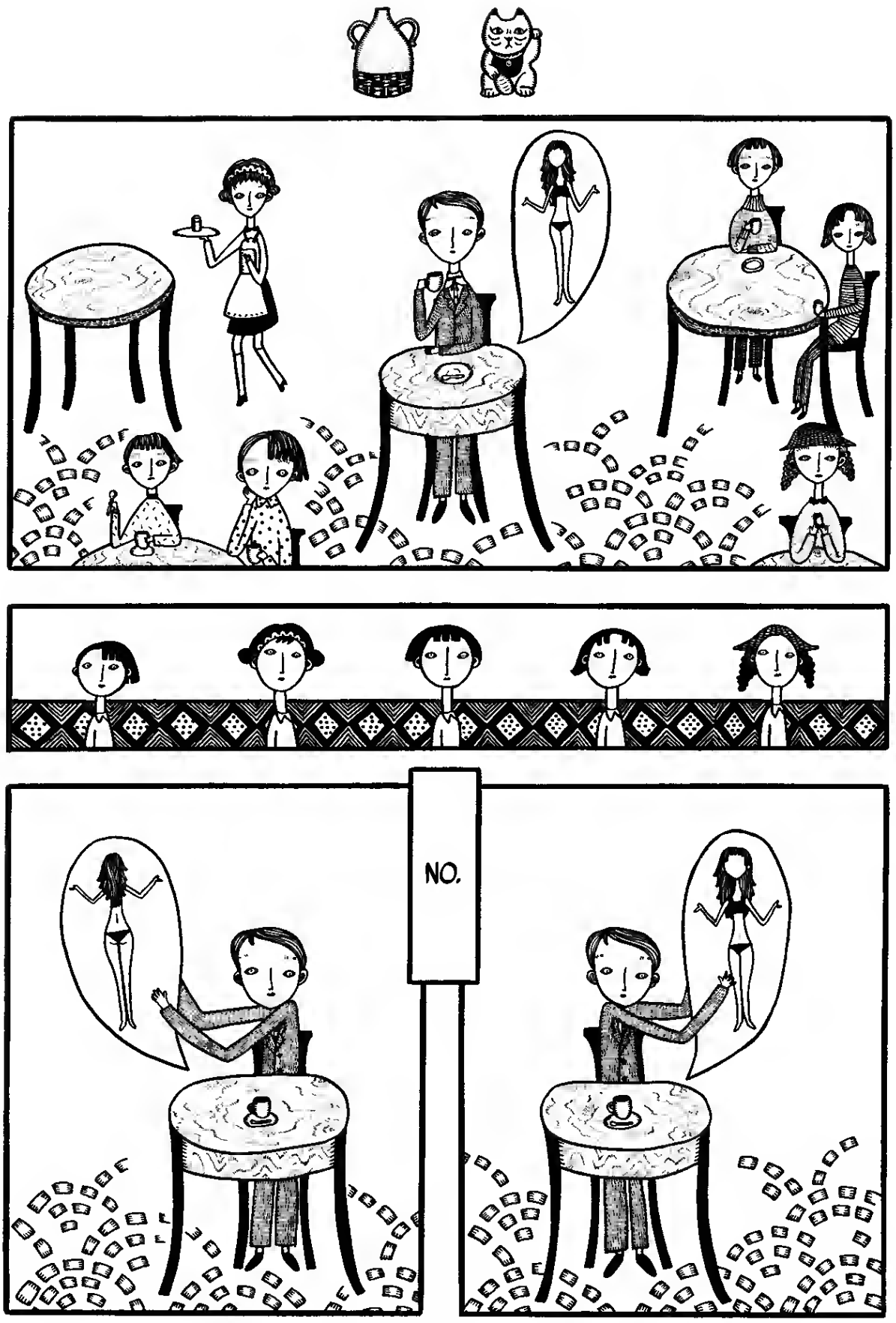
THE PROPER PLACE

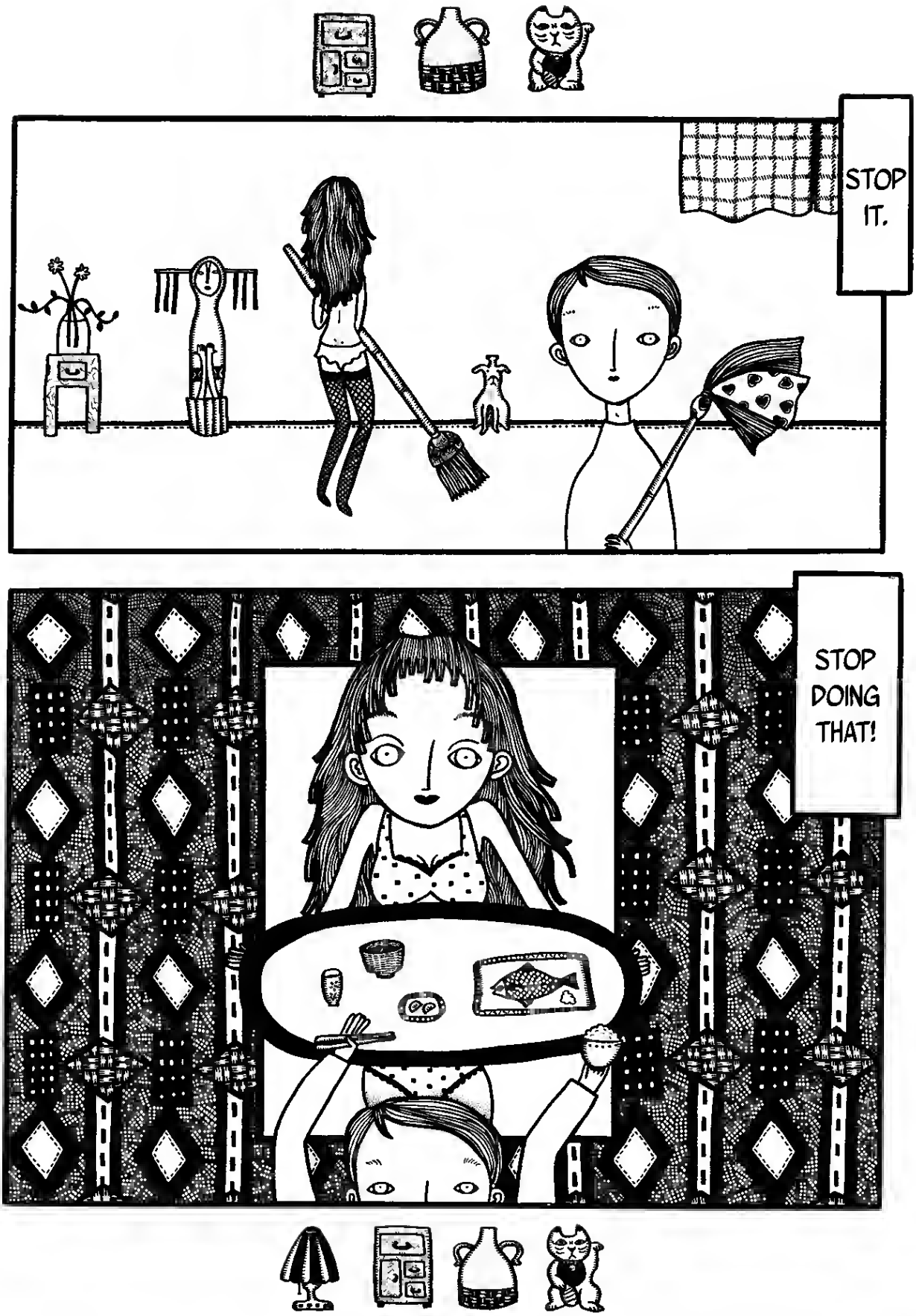

I NEED A PLACE TO PUT THIS.
I'D LIKE TO BUY THIS.
THANK YOU
I SHOULD NEVER HAVE BOUGHT IT.

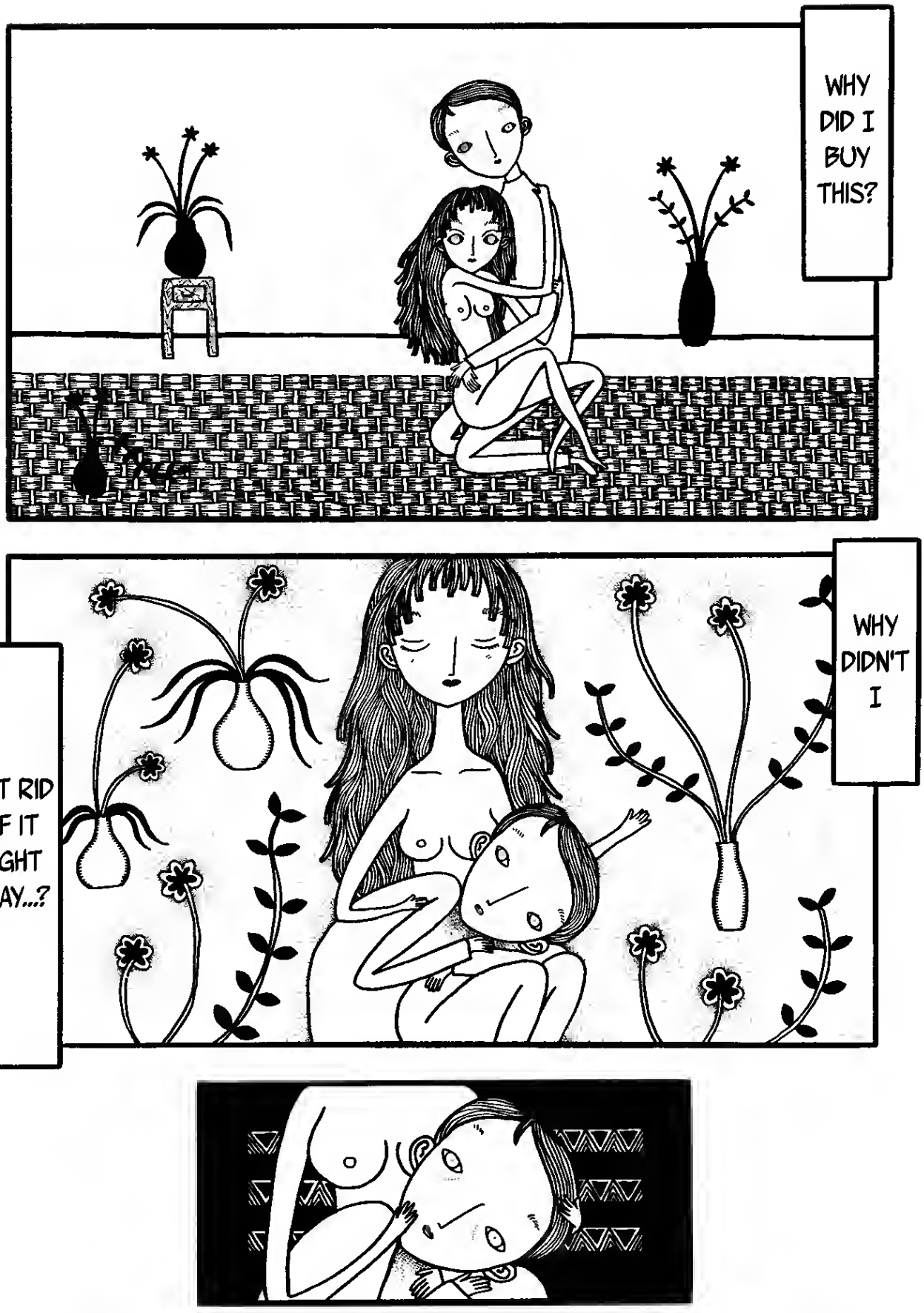

EVEN HERE ...
NO MATTER WHERE I PUT IT...
IT DOESN'T WORK.
IT JUST DOES NOT FEEL RIGHT.
EVEN IF I DO THIS ...
NO MATTER WHAT I DO...

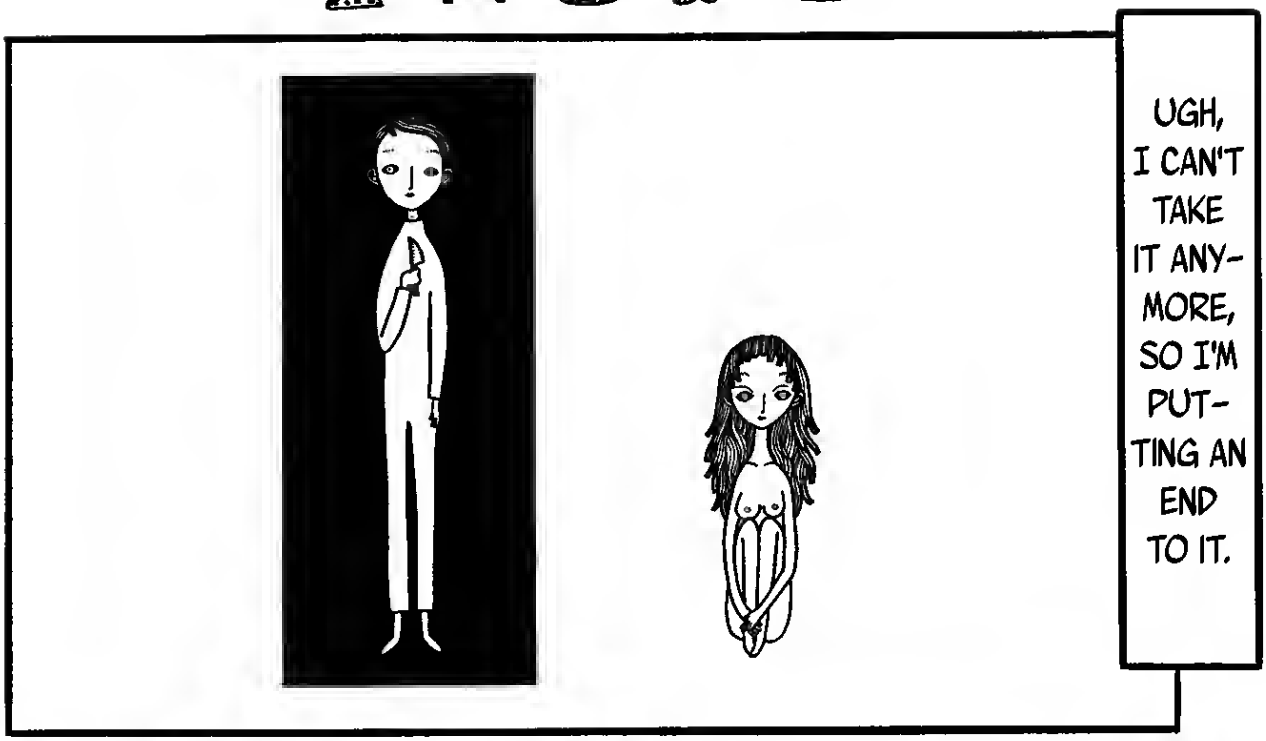

EVEN IF I DO THAT!
THIS ISN'T WORK-ING.
IT'S NO USE.
THIS ISN'T WORK-ING AT ALL!

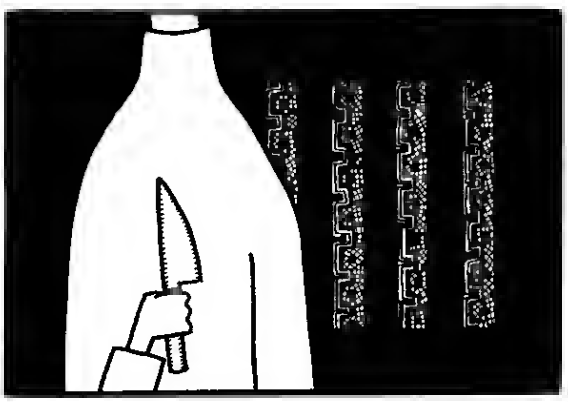
AH!
NO.
STAND

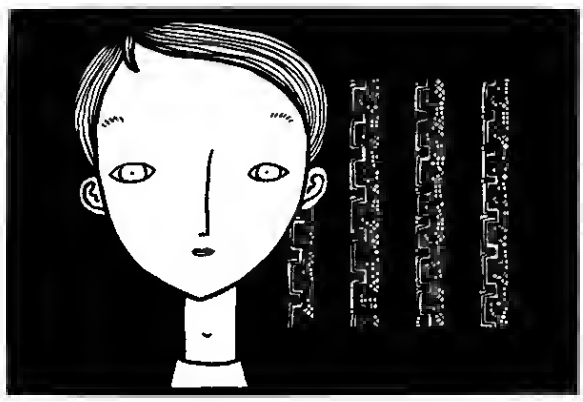

NO.

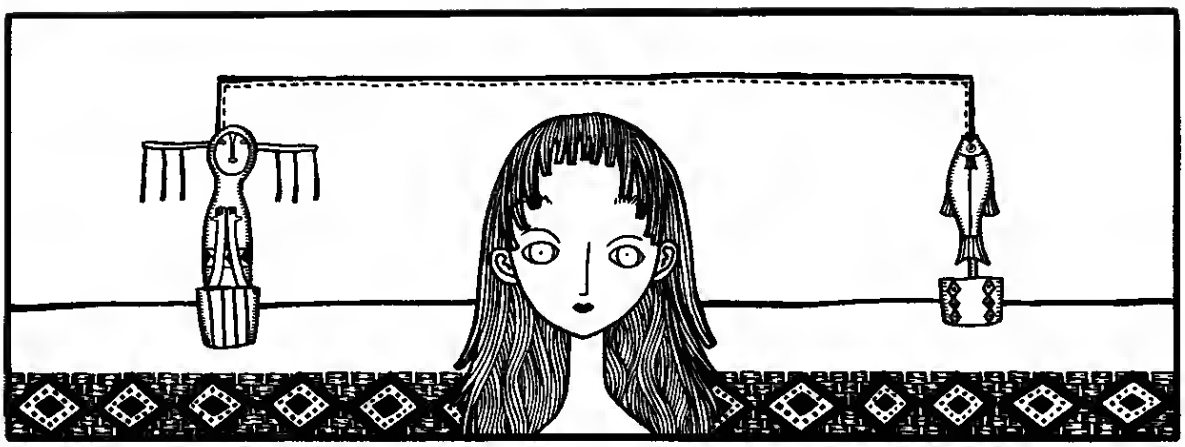

STOP IT.
STOP DOING THAT!

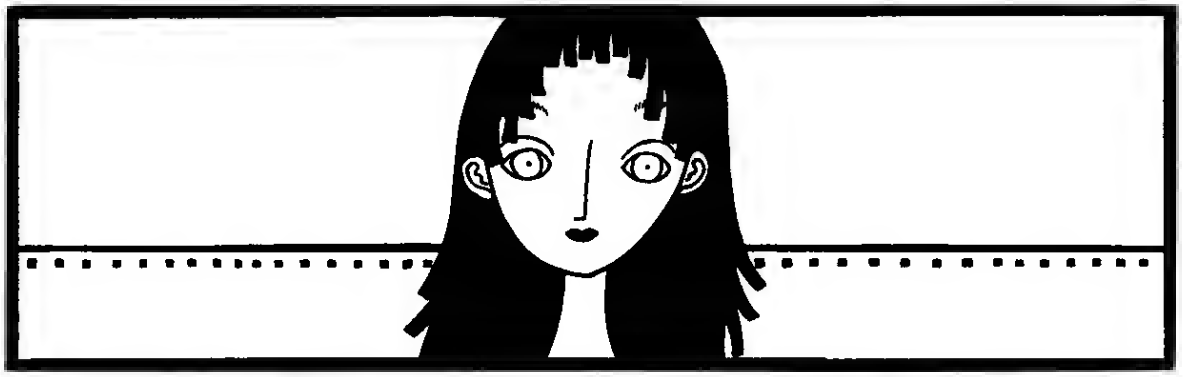

WHY DID I BUY THIS?
WHY DIDN'T I GET RID OF IT RIGHT AWAY...?

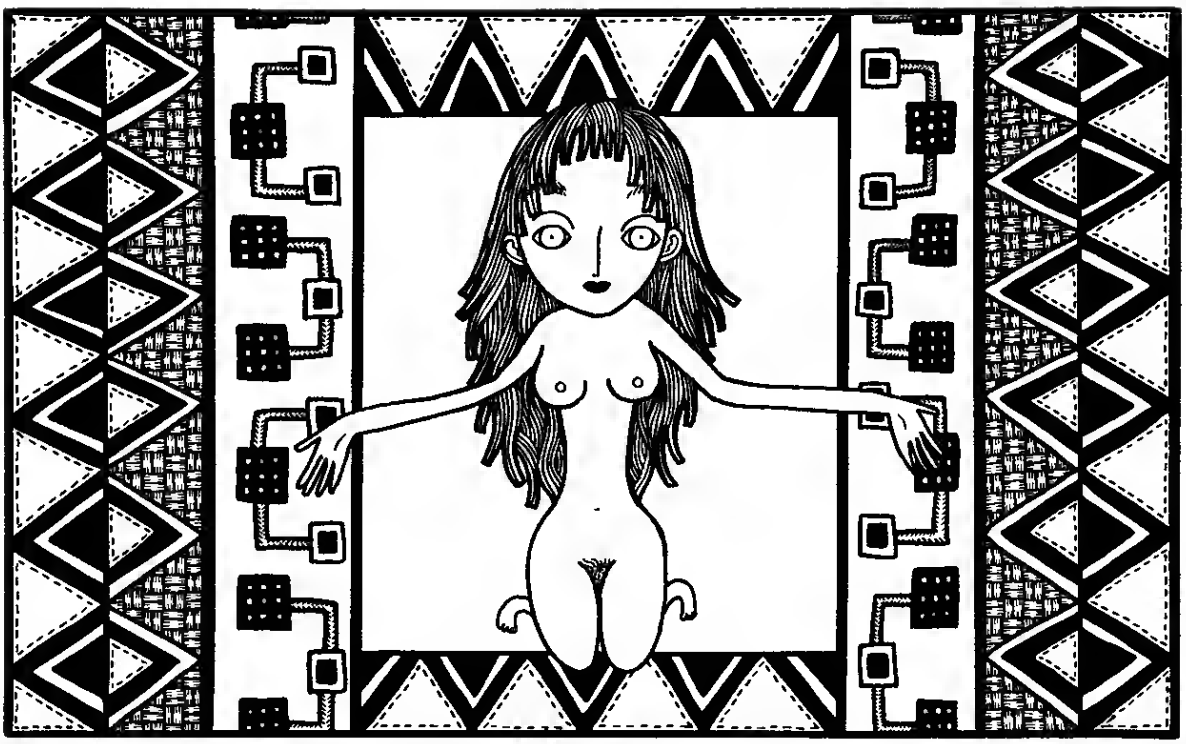

UGH, I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY-MORE, SO I'M PUT-TING AN END TO IT.

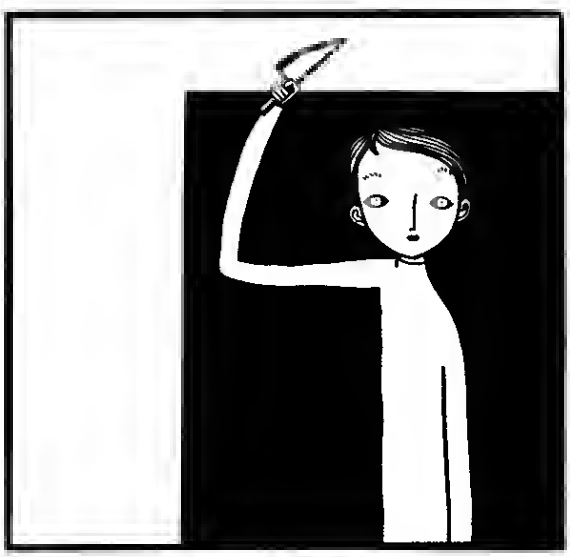


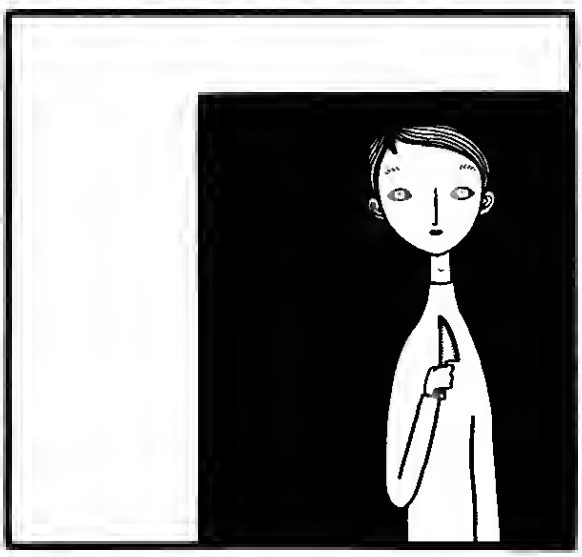


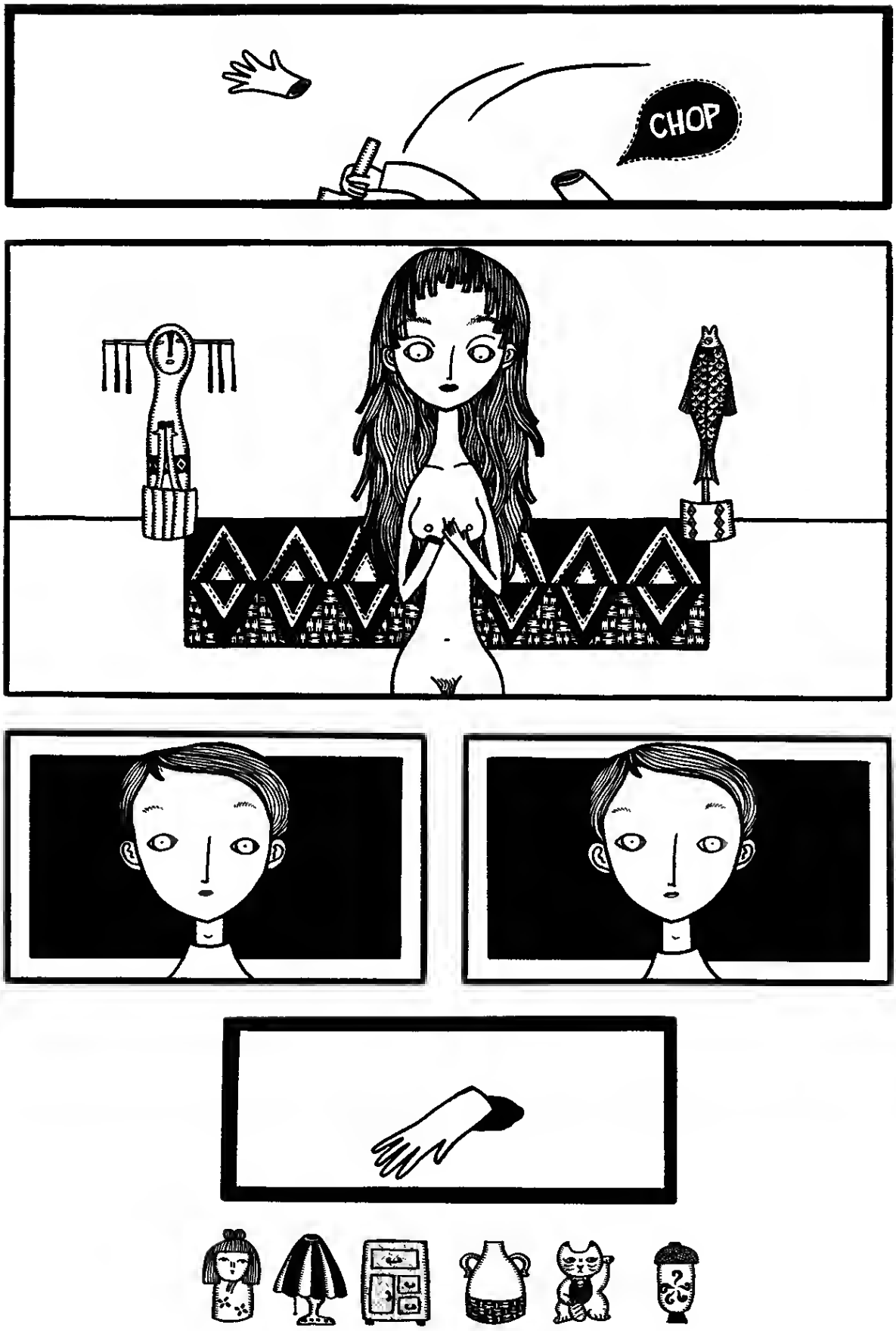


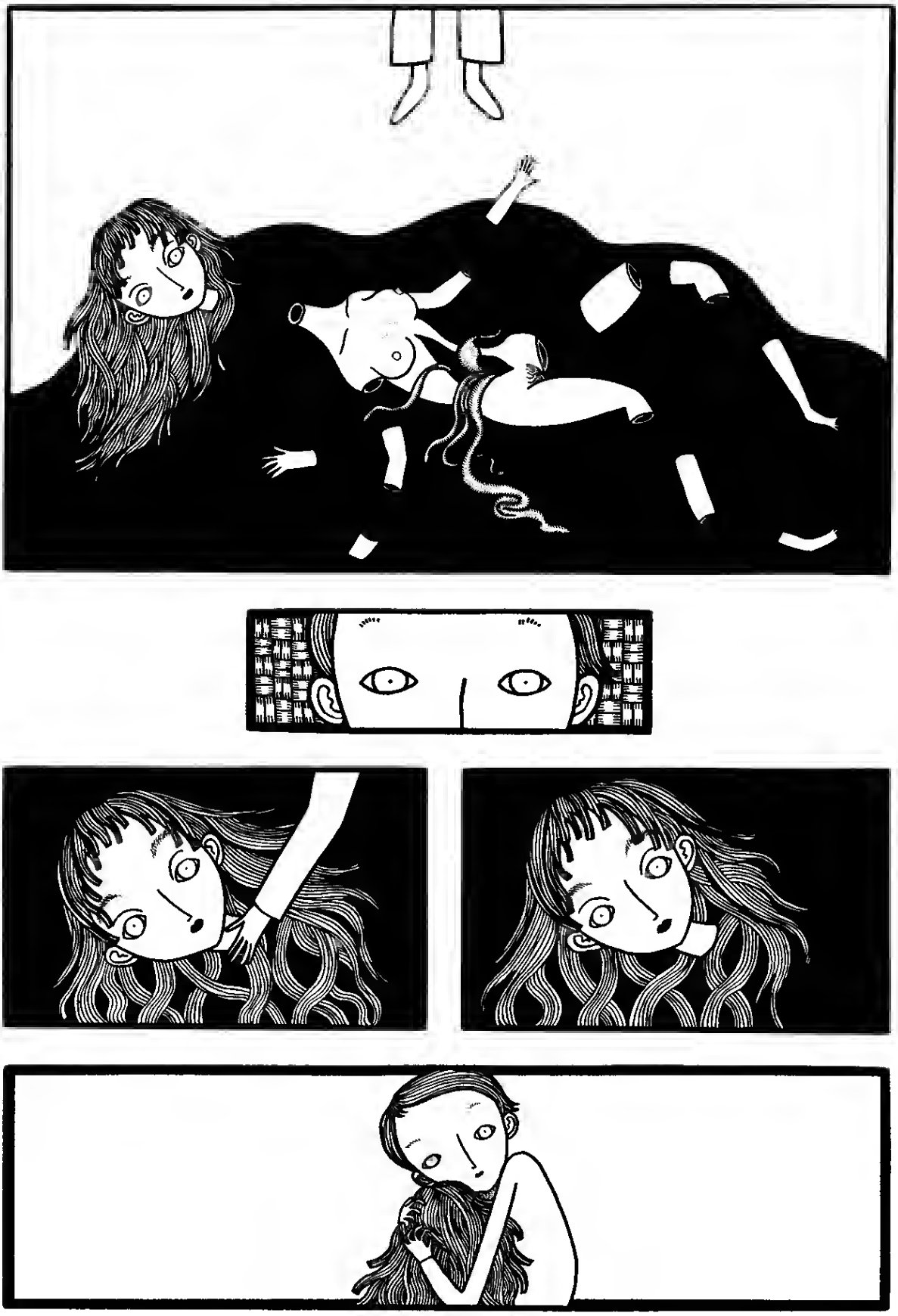


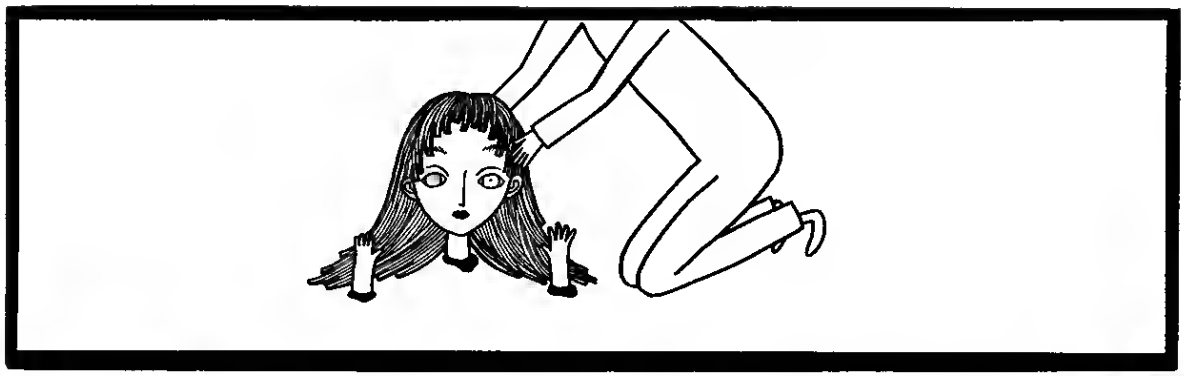


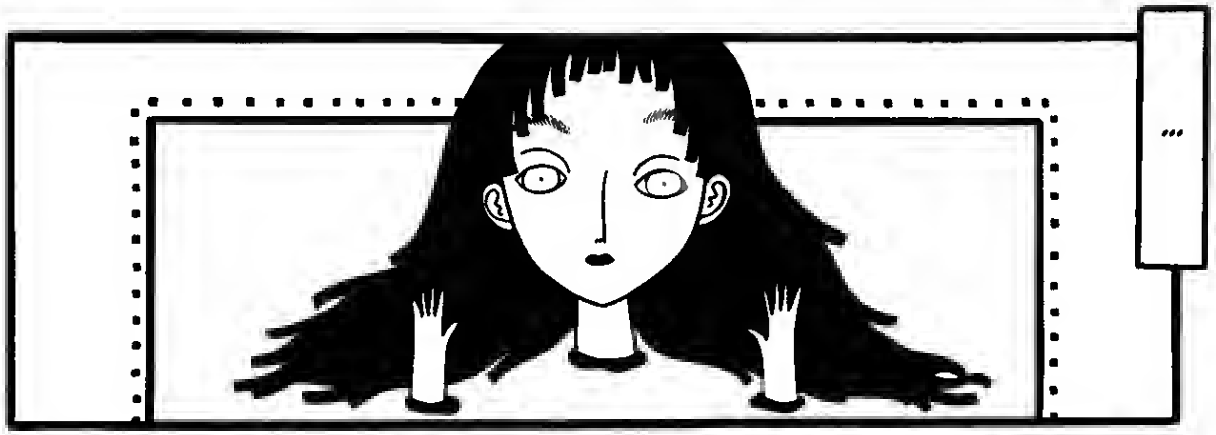





CHOP



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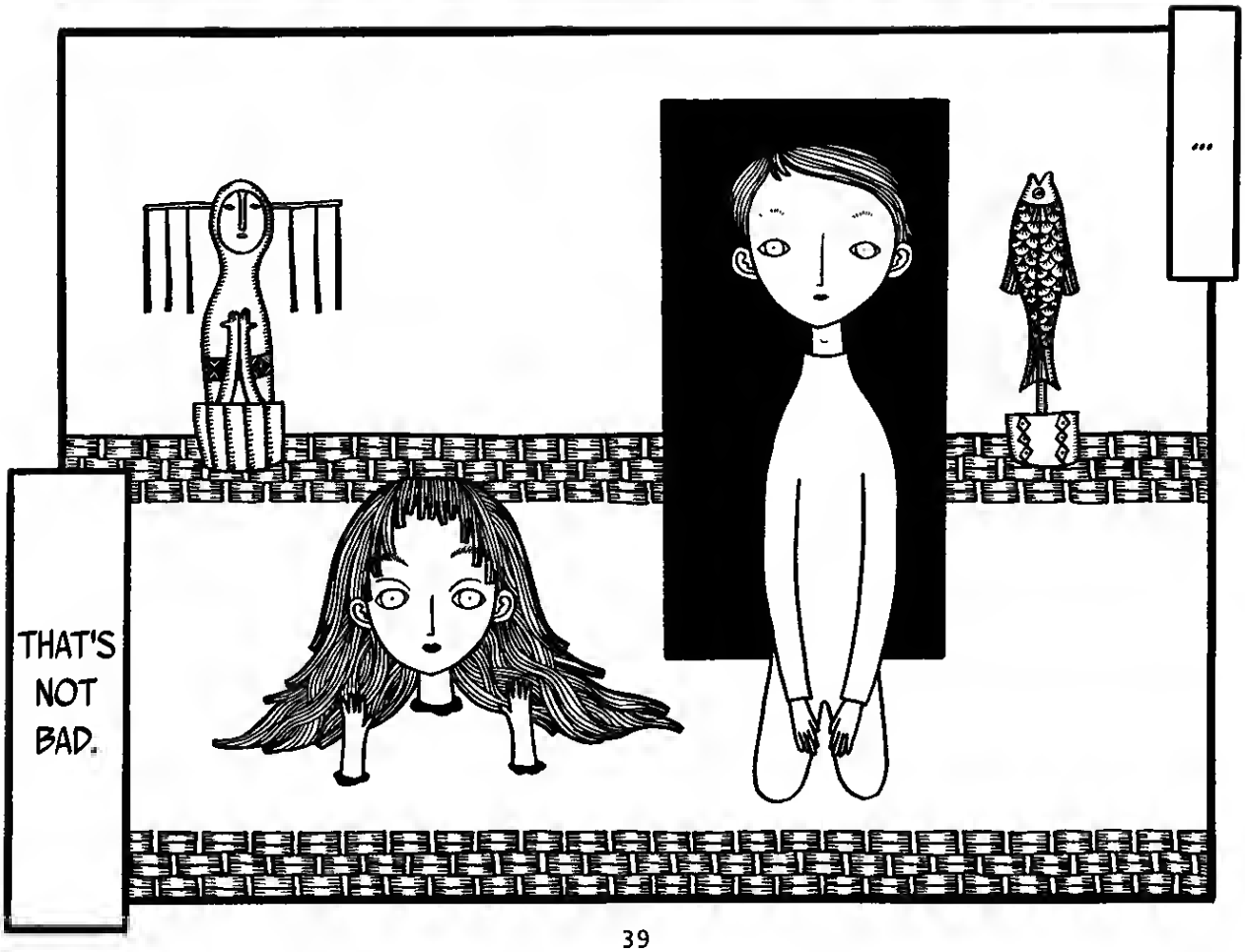
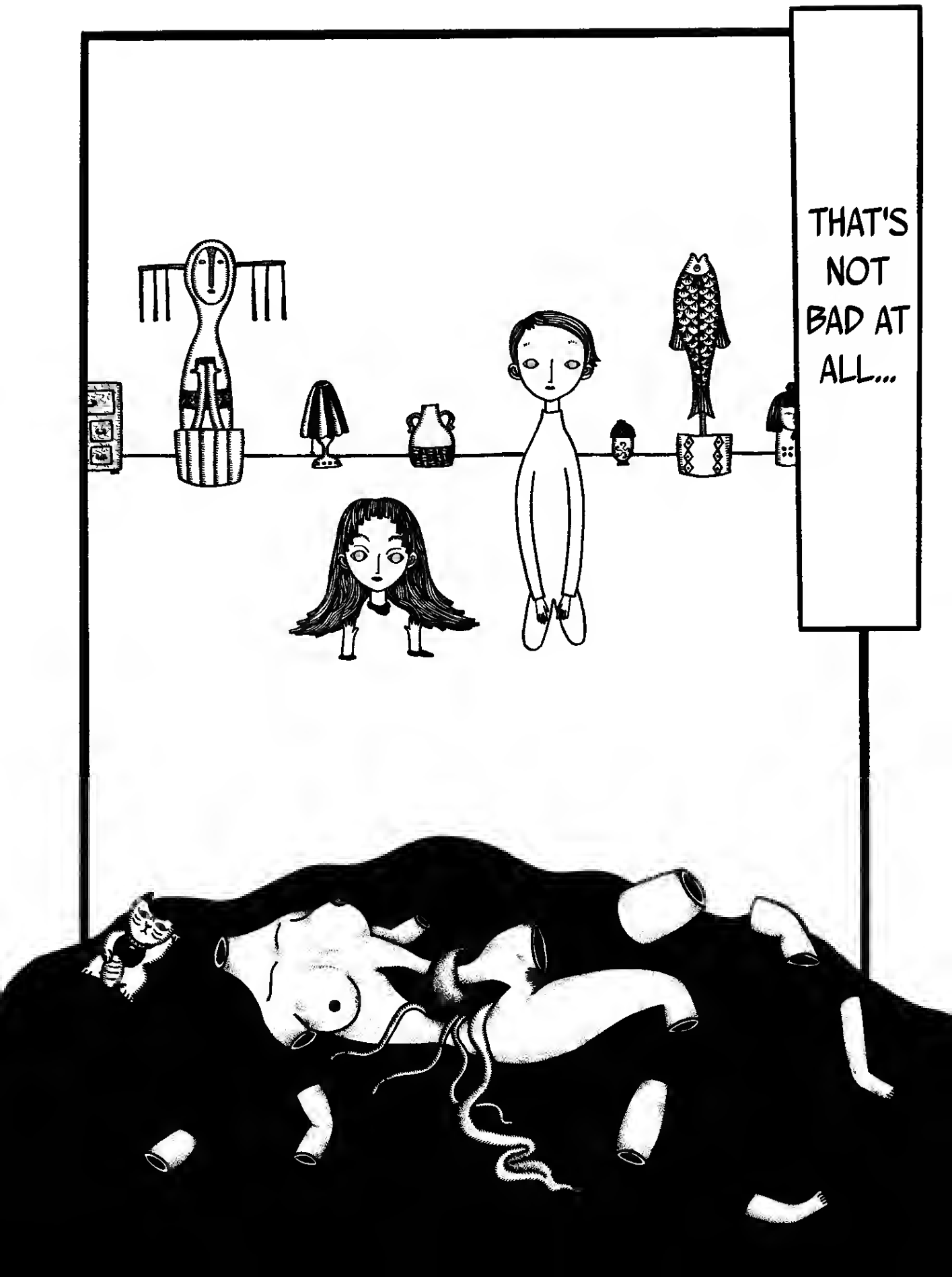
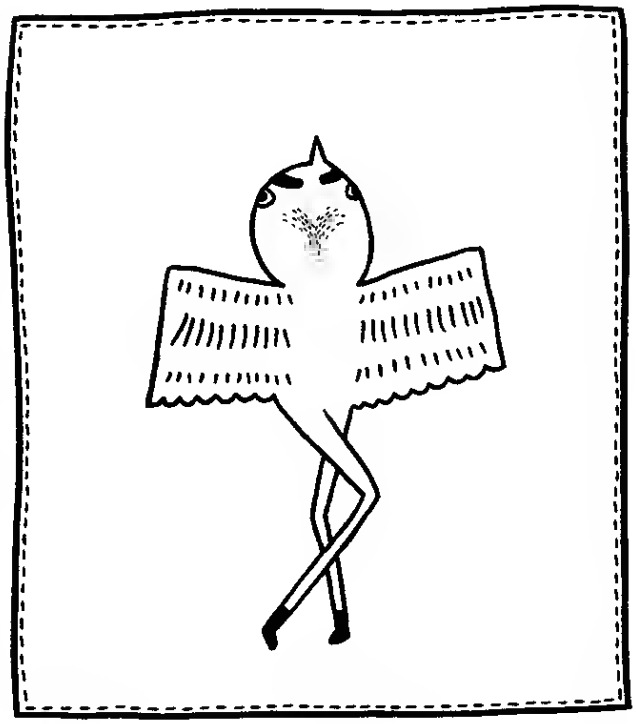
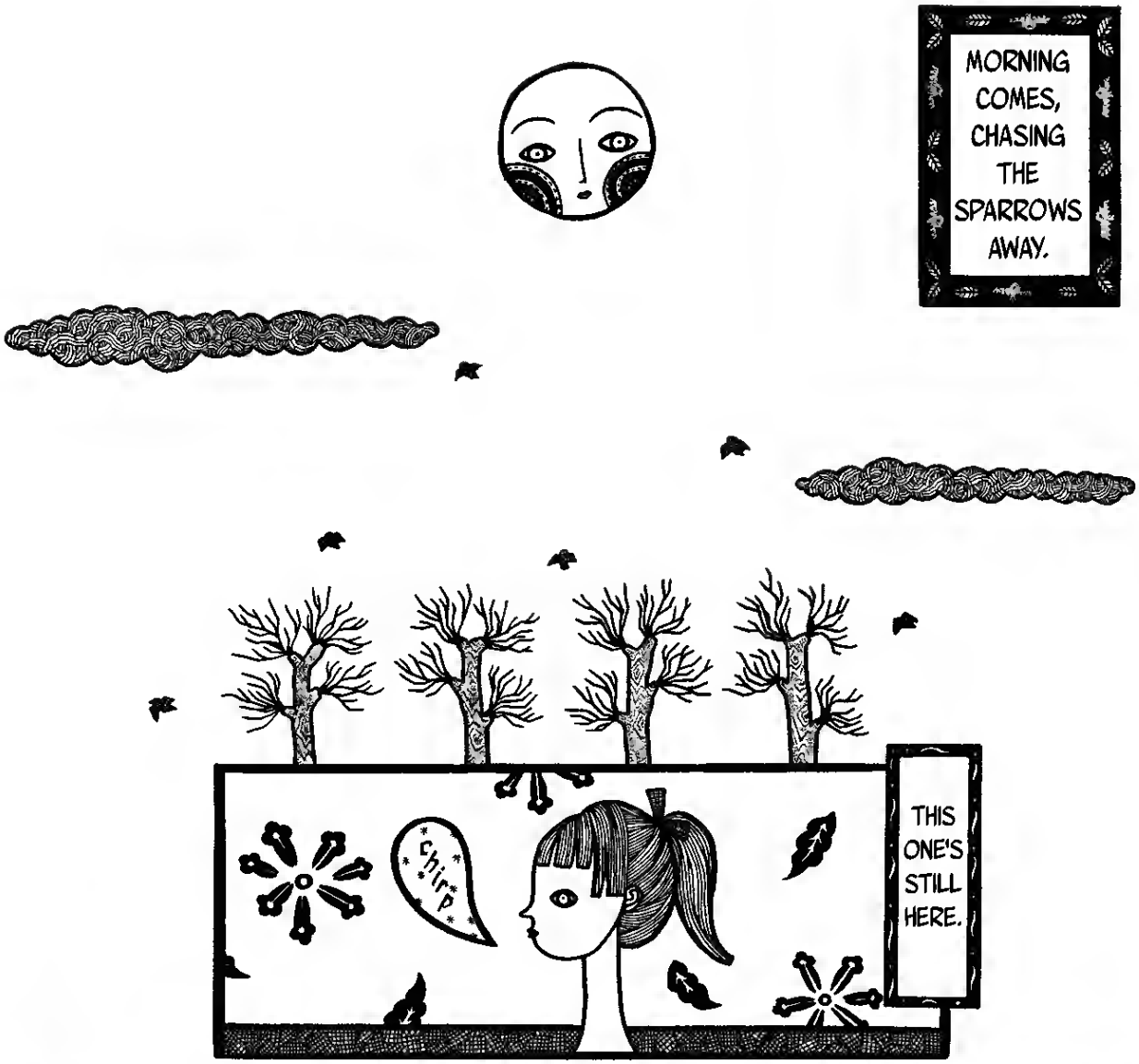
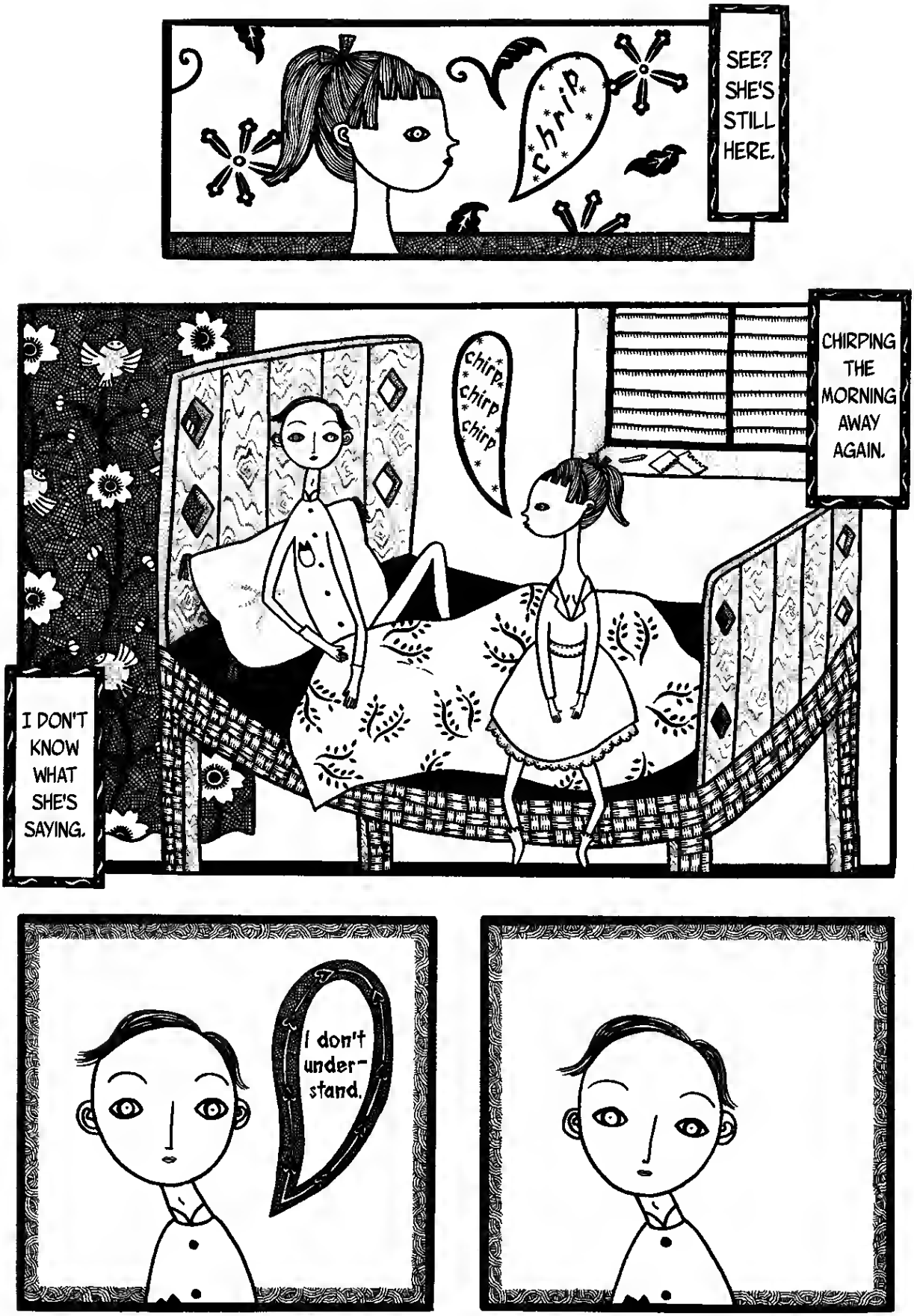

...
THAT'S NOT BAD.

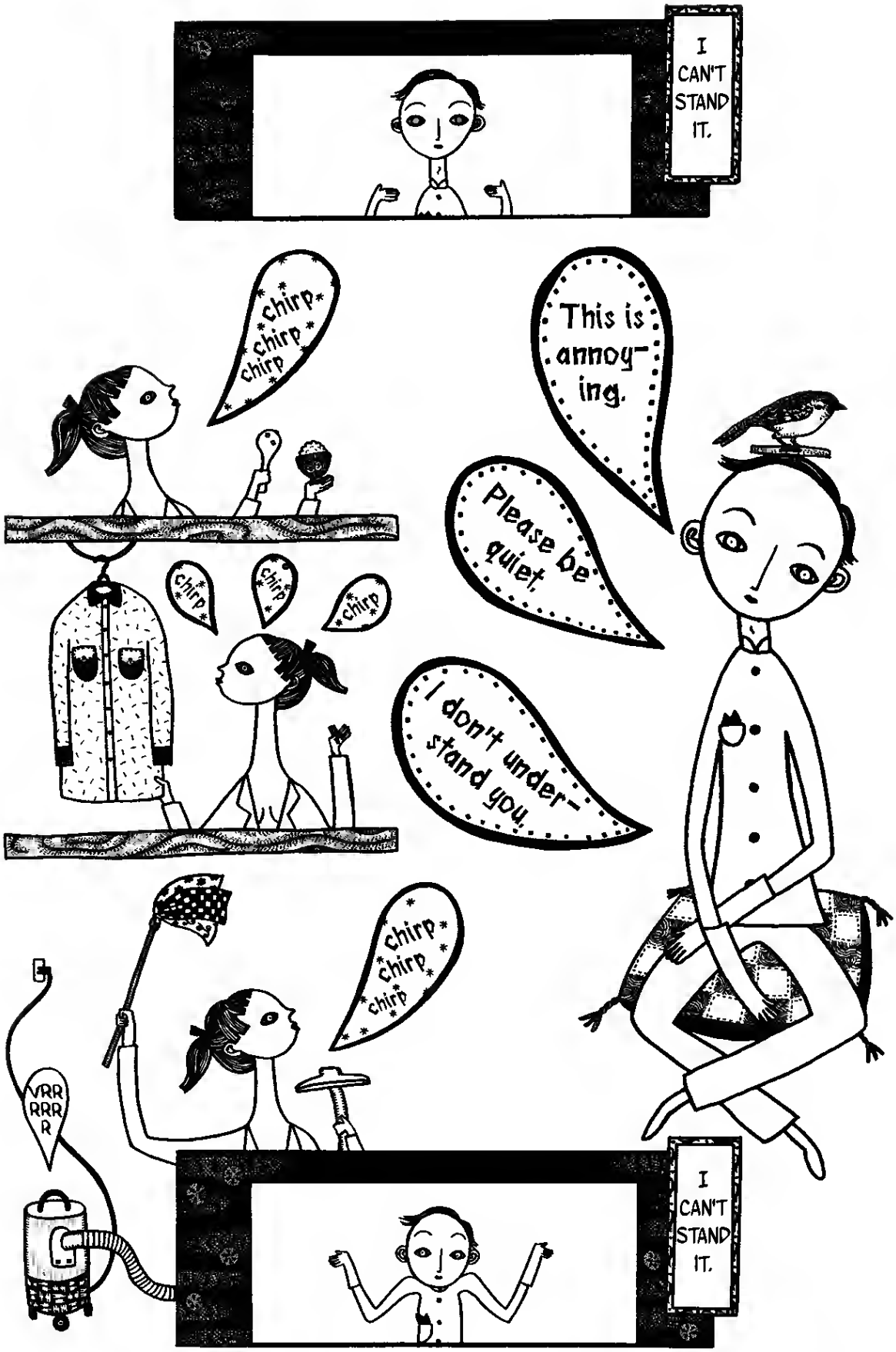

THAT'S NOT BAD AT ALL...

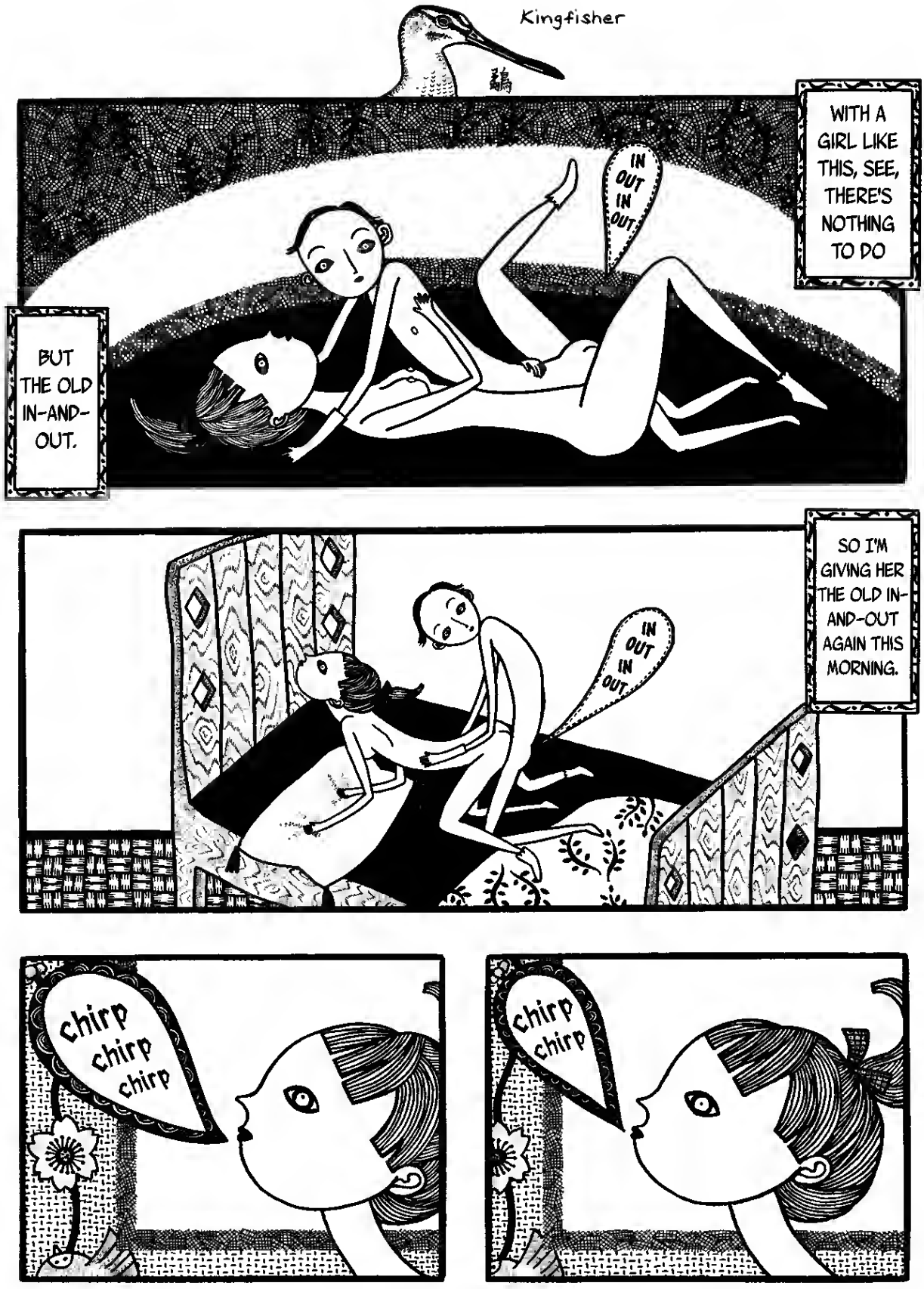
birdcage




MORNING COMES, CHASING THE SPARROWS AWAY.
chirp
THIS ONE'S STILL HERE.
clap clap
clap clap

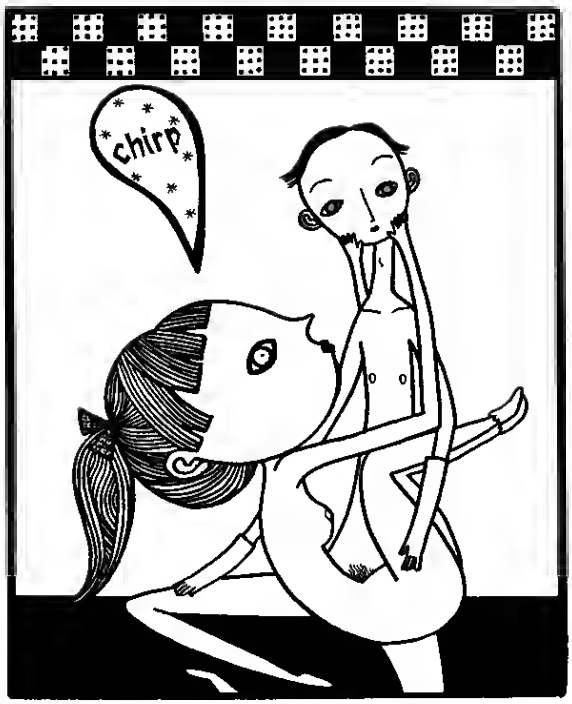

chirp
SEE? SHE'S STILL HERE.
chirp chirp chirp
CHIRPING THE MORNING AWAY AGAIN.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE'S SAYING.
I don't under-stand.

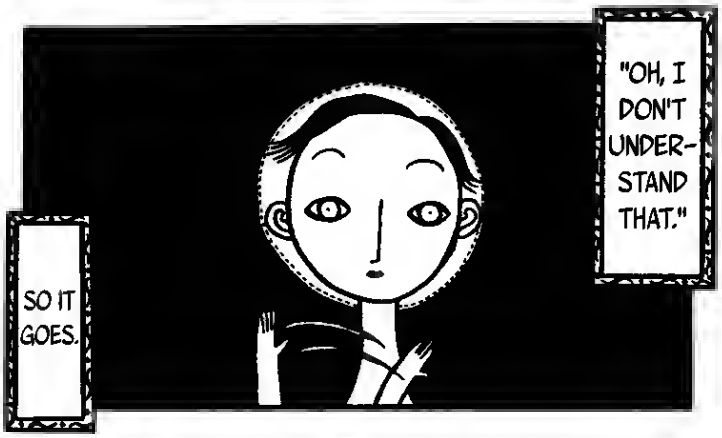

I CAN'T STAND IT.
chirp chirp chirp
chirp
chirp
chirp
This is annoy-ing.
Please be quiet.
I don't under-stand you.
chirp chirp chirp
VRR RRR R
I CAN'T STAND IT.


Kingfisher
鵐
WITH A GIRL LIKE THIS, SEE, THERE'S NOTHING TO DO
IN OUT IN OUT
BUT THE OLD IN-AND-OUT.
SO I'M GIVING HER THE OLD IN-AND-OUT AGAIN THIS MORNING.
IN OUT IN OUT
chirp chirp chirp
chirp chirp

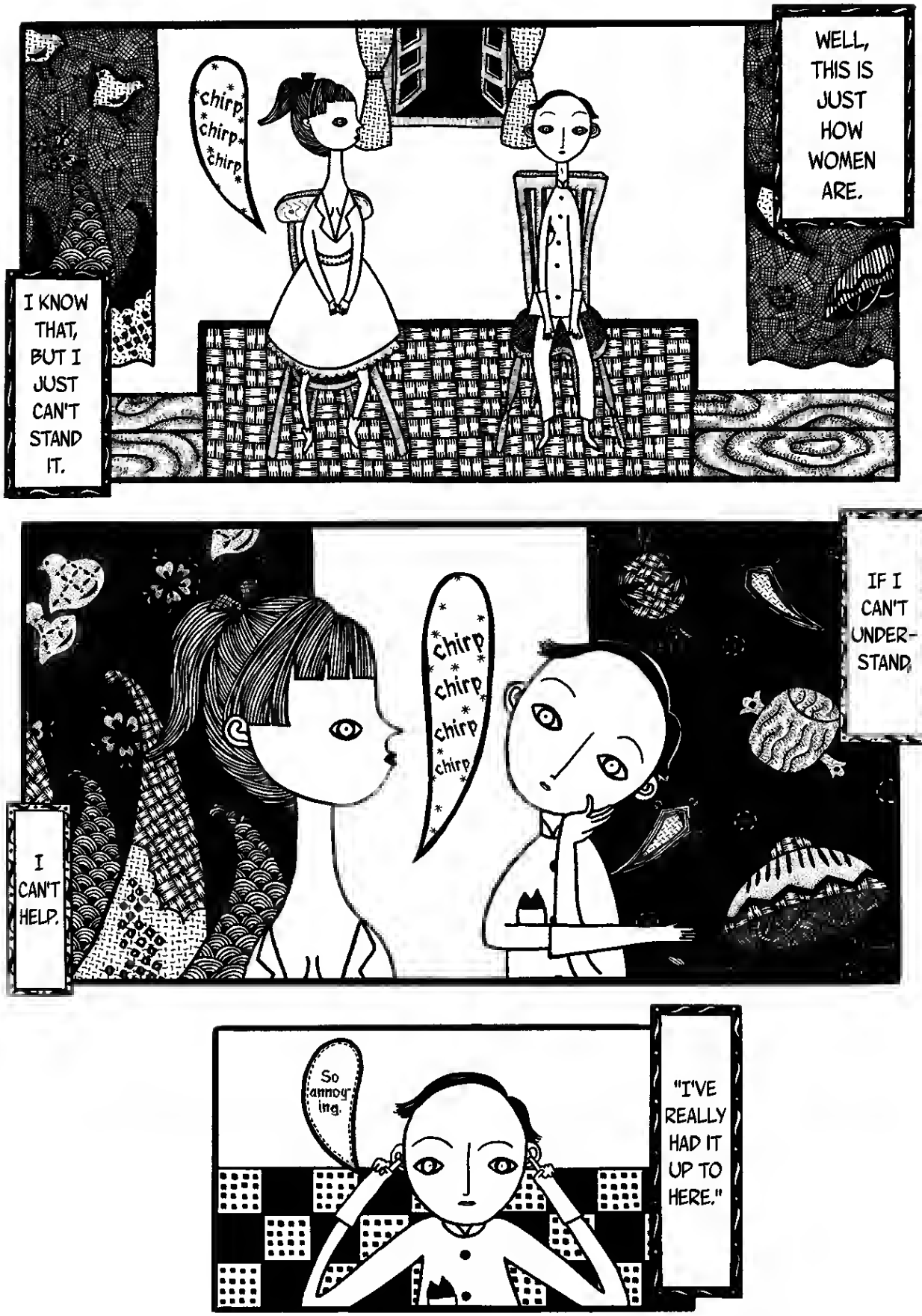
"OH, I UNDER-STOOD THAT."
THAT'S ABOUT IT.

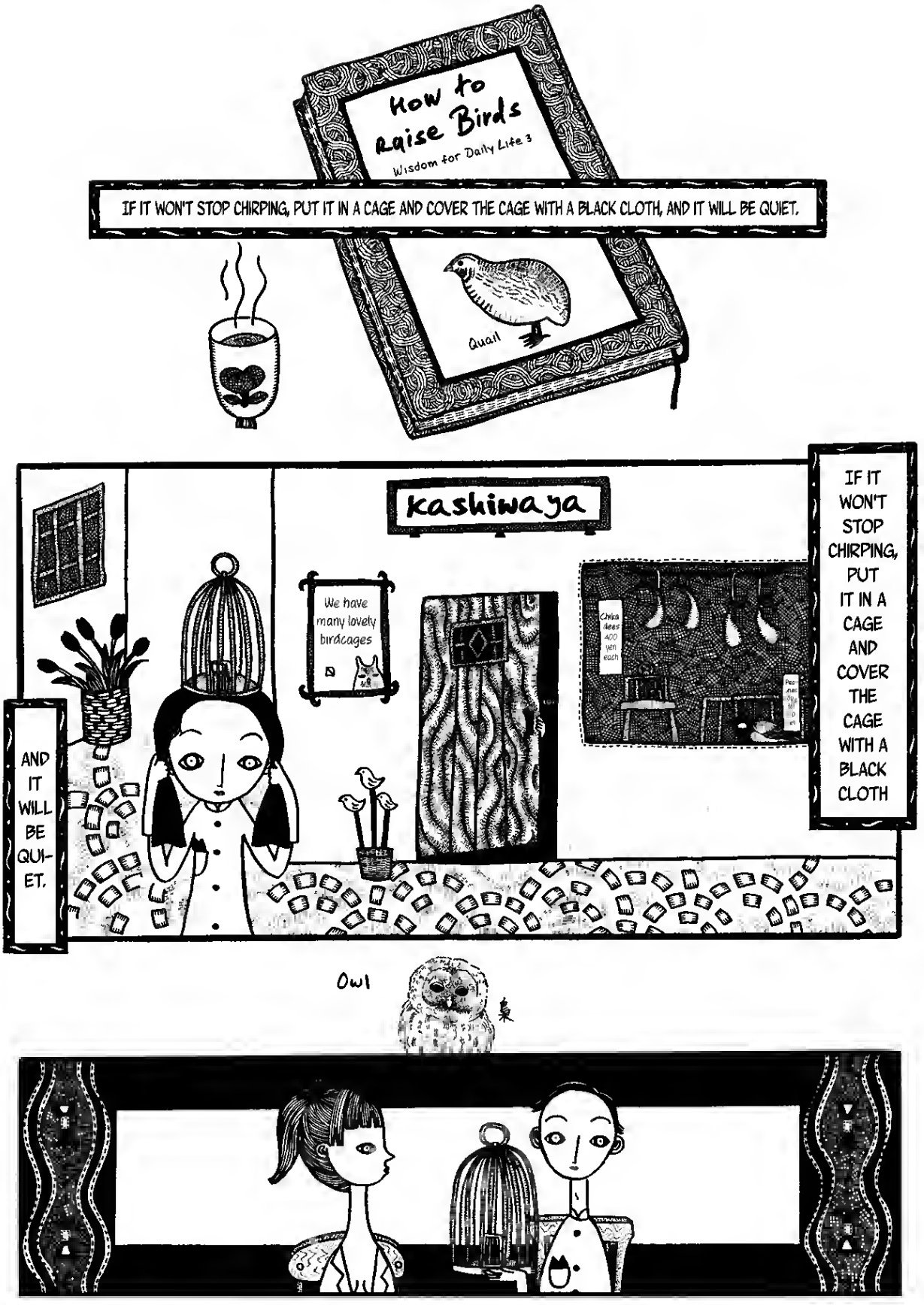
chirp chirp chirp chirp

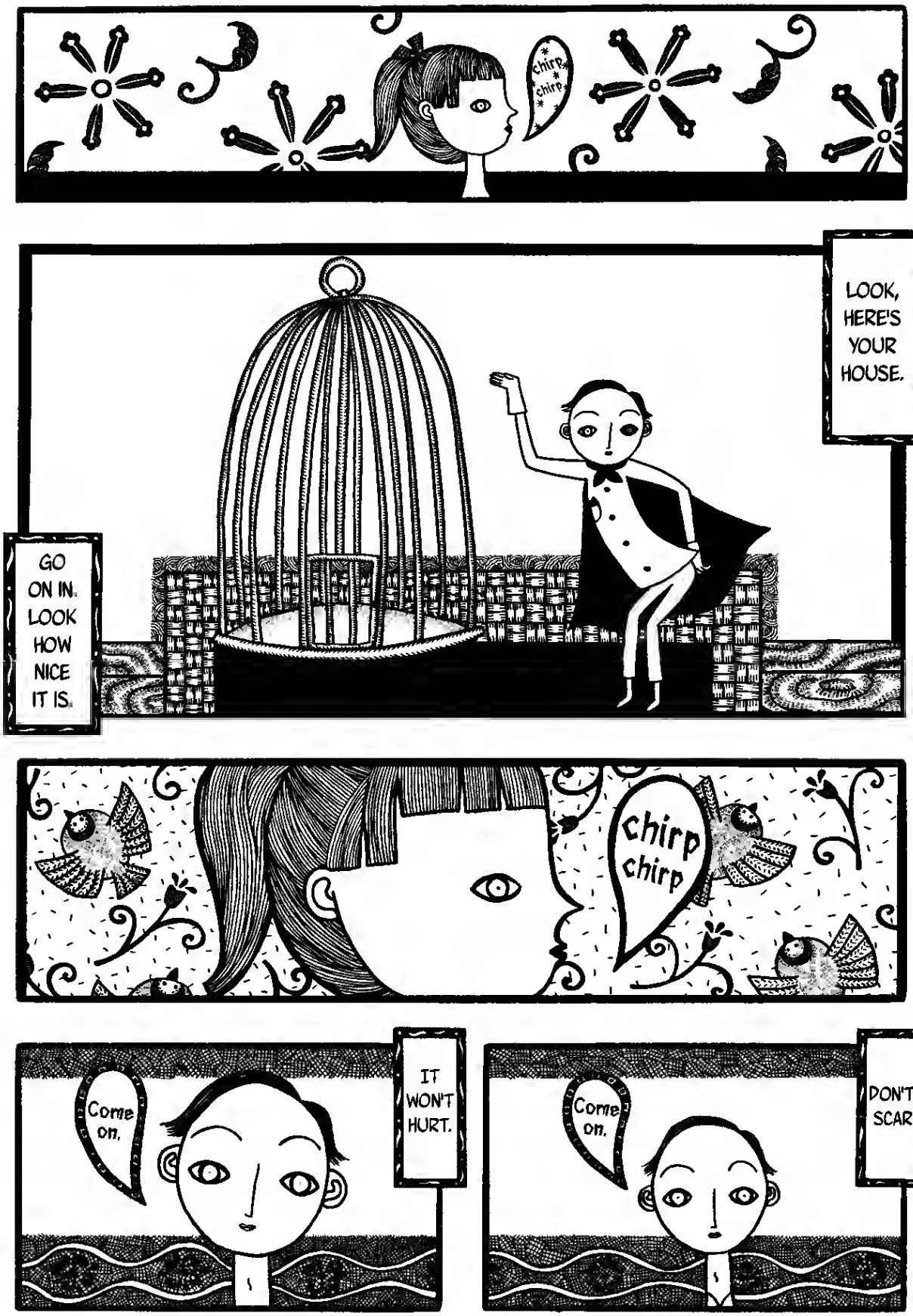

chirp

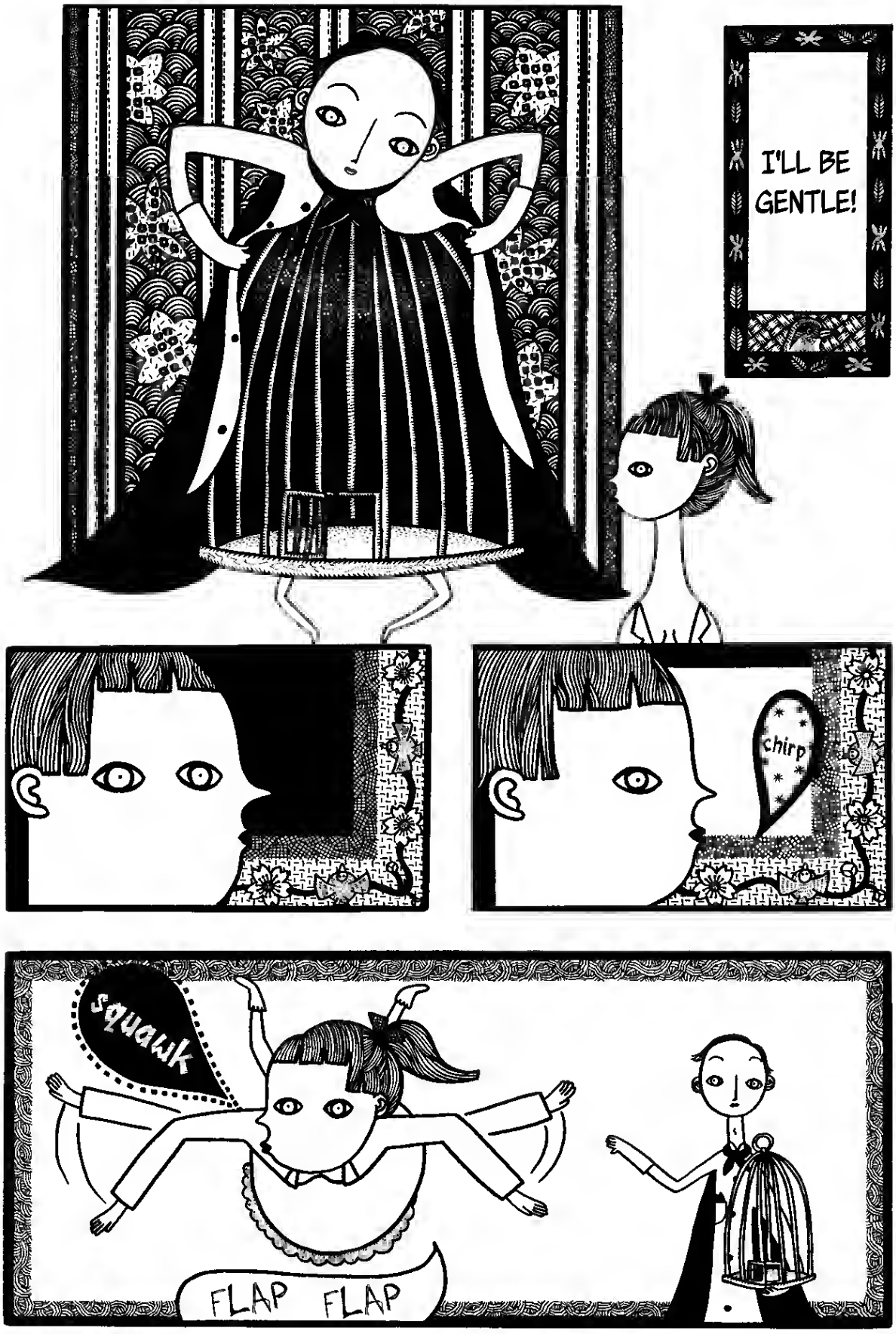

"OH, I DON'T UNDER-STAND THAT."
SO IT GOES.

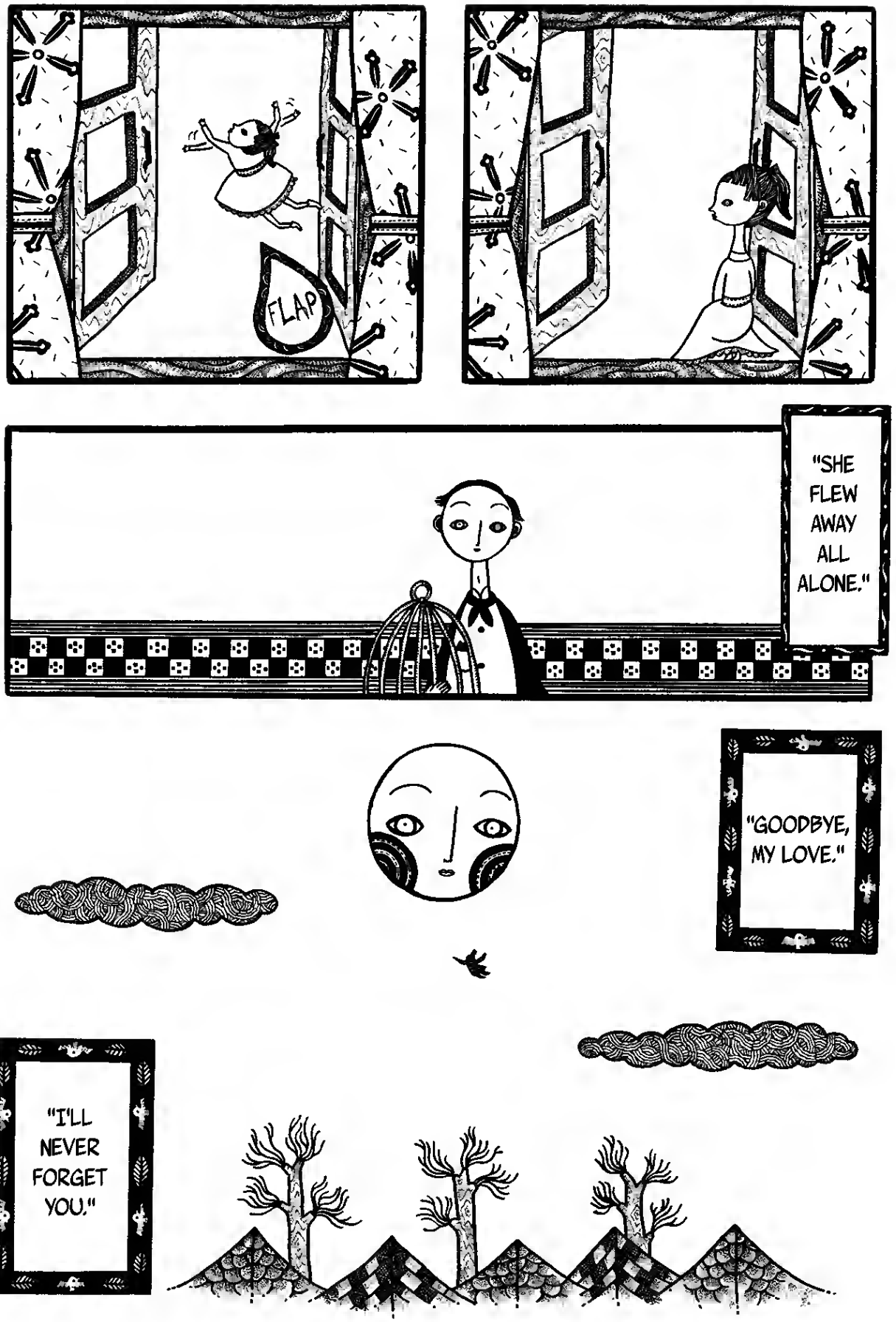
Little Grebe
鸊鷉

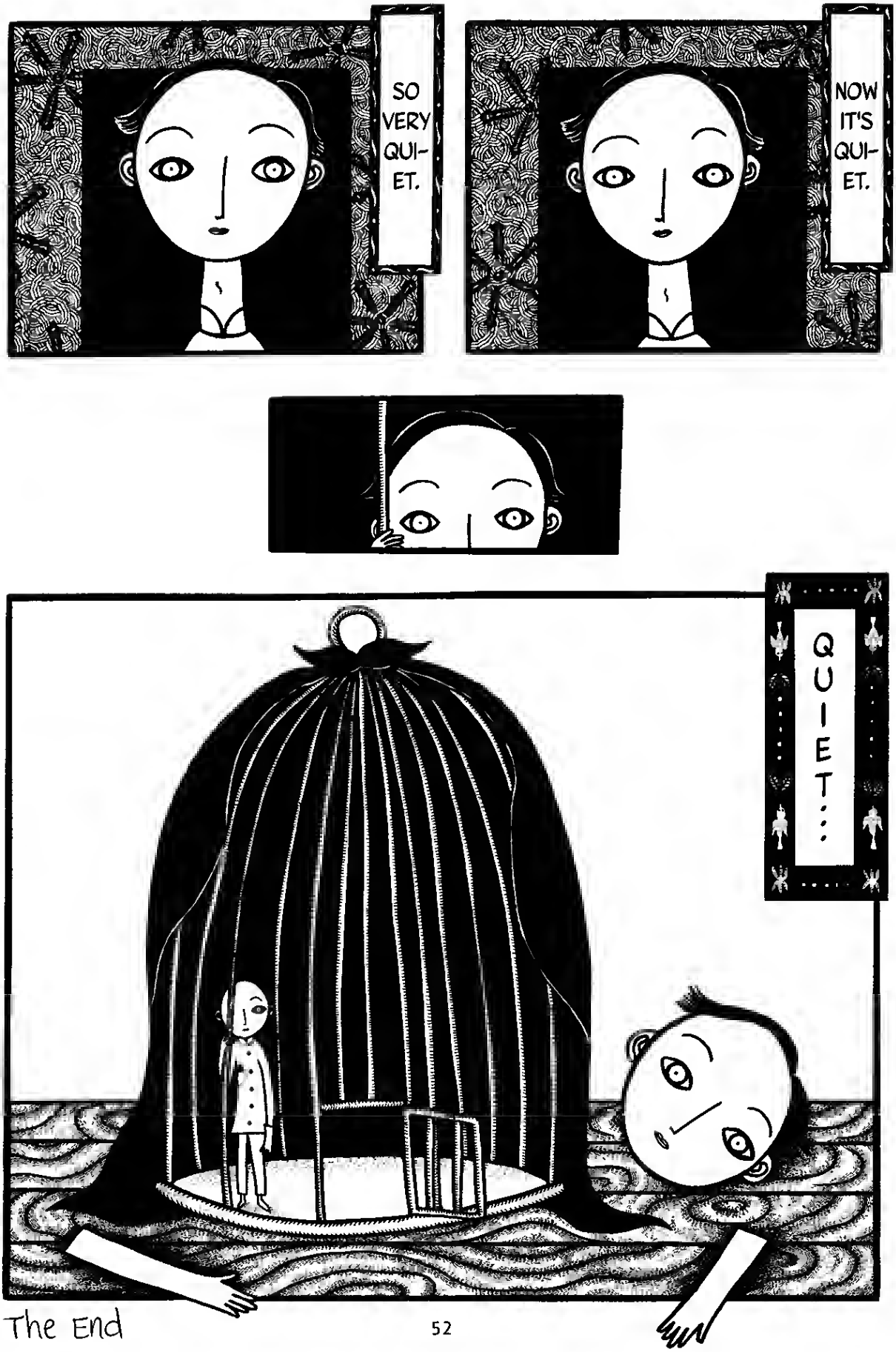

chirp chirp chirp
WELL, THIS IS JUST HOW WOMEN ARE.
I KNOW THAT, BUT I JUST CAN'T STAND IT.
chirp chirp chirp chirp
IF I CAN'T UNDER-STAND
I CAN'T HELP.
So annoy-ing.
"I'VE REALLY HAD IT UP TO HERE."


How to Raise Birds
Wisdom for Daily Life 3
IF IT WON'T STOP CHIRPING, PUT IT IN A CAGE AND COVER THE CAGE WITH A BLACK CLOTH, AND IT WILL BE QUIET.
Quail
kashiwaya
We have many lovely birdcages
Chika dees 400 yen each
IF IT WON'T STOP CHIRPING, PUT IT IN A CAGE AND COVER THE CAGE WITH A BLACK CLOTH
AND IT WILL BE QUI-ET.
Owl
梟


chirp chirp
LOOK, HERE'S YOUR HOUSE.
GO ON IN. LOOK HOW NICE IT IS.
chirp chirp
Come on.
IT WON'T HURT.
Come on.
DON'T BE SCARED.

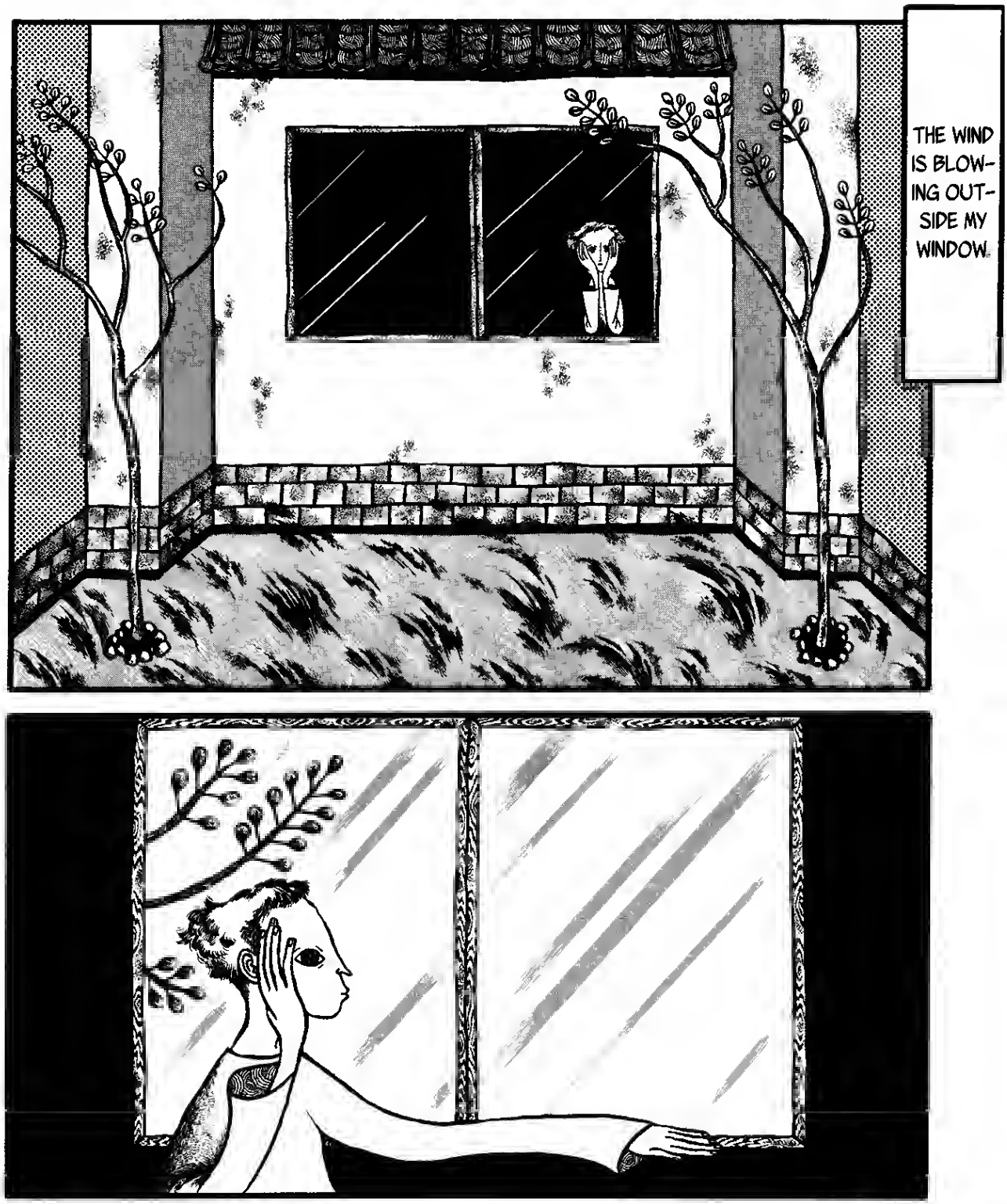

I'LL BE GENTLE!
chirp
squawk
FLAP FLAP

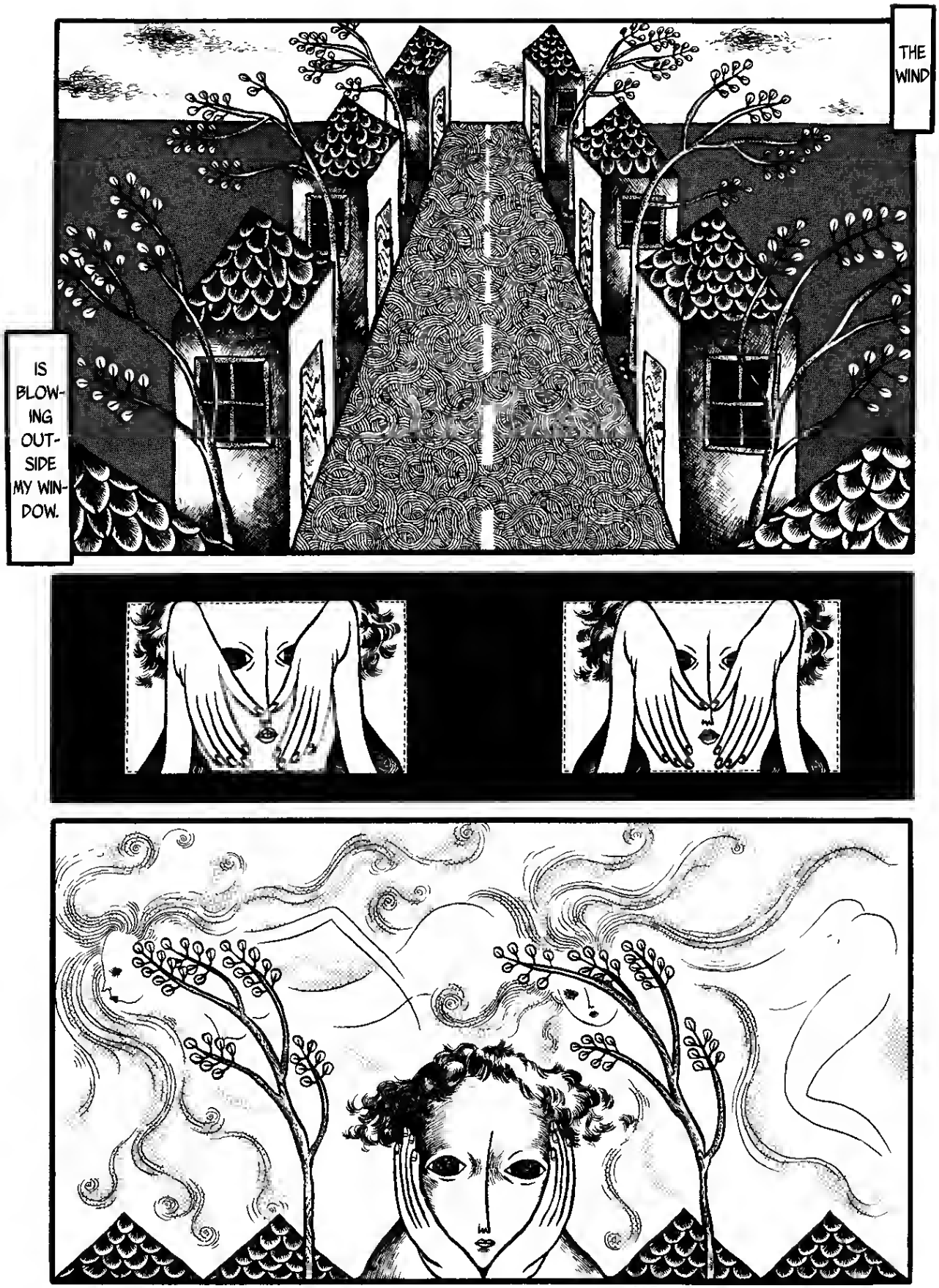

FLAP
"SHE FLEW AWAY ALL ALONE."
"GOODBYE, MY LOVE."
"I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU."

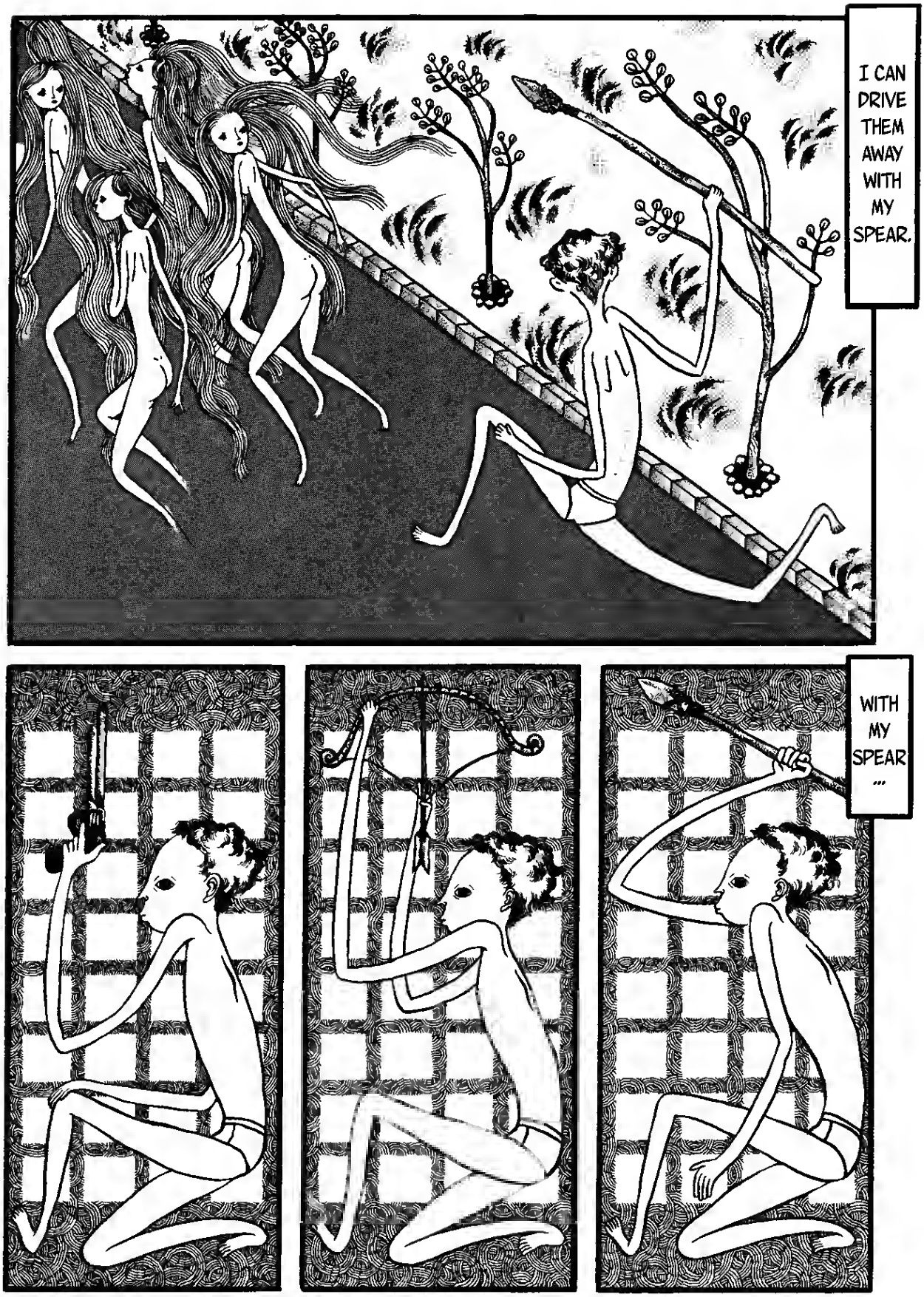


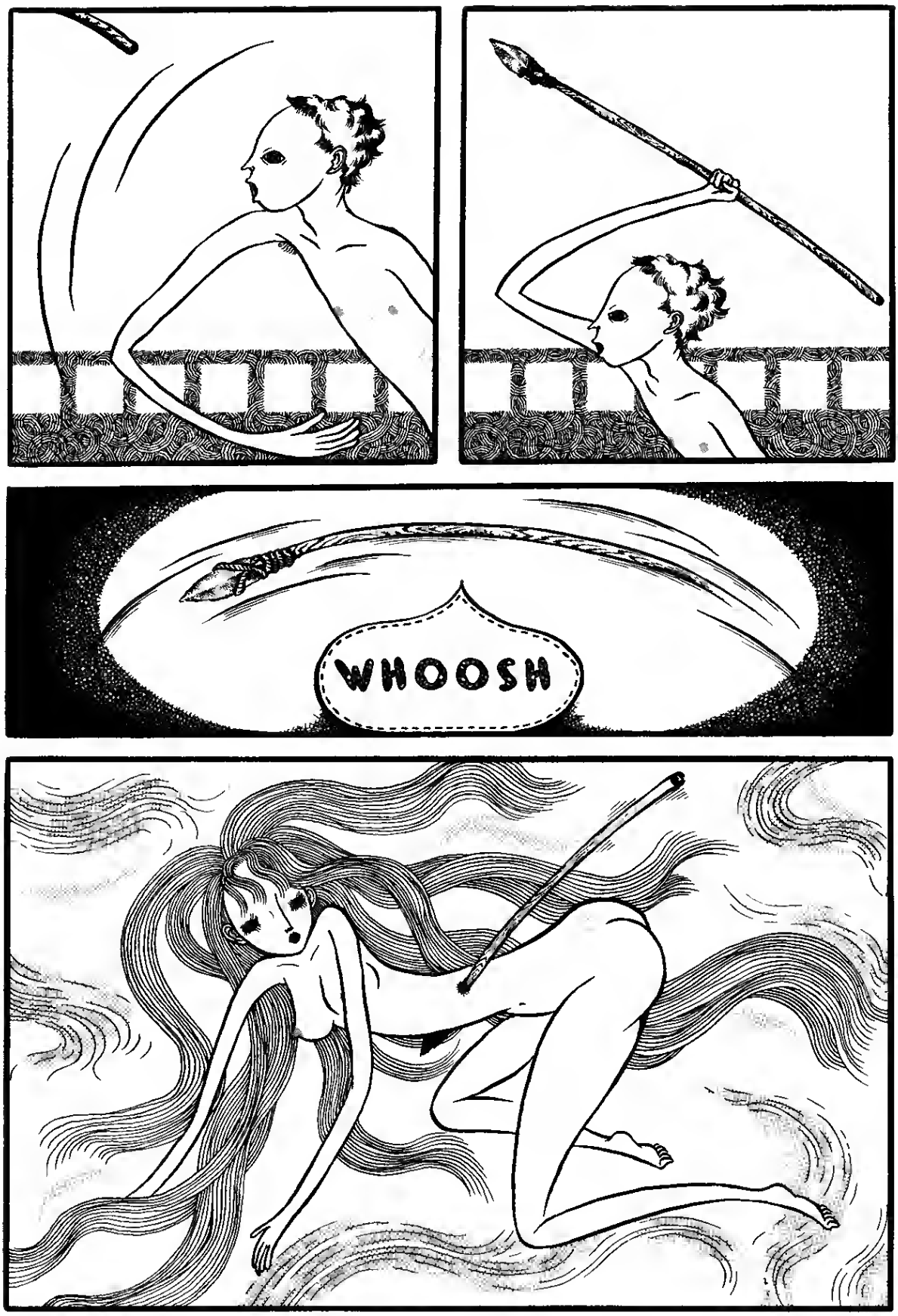
The End

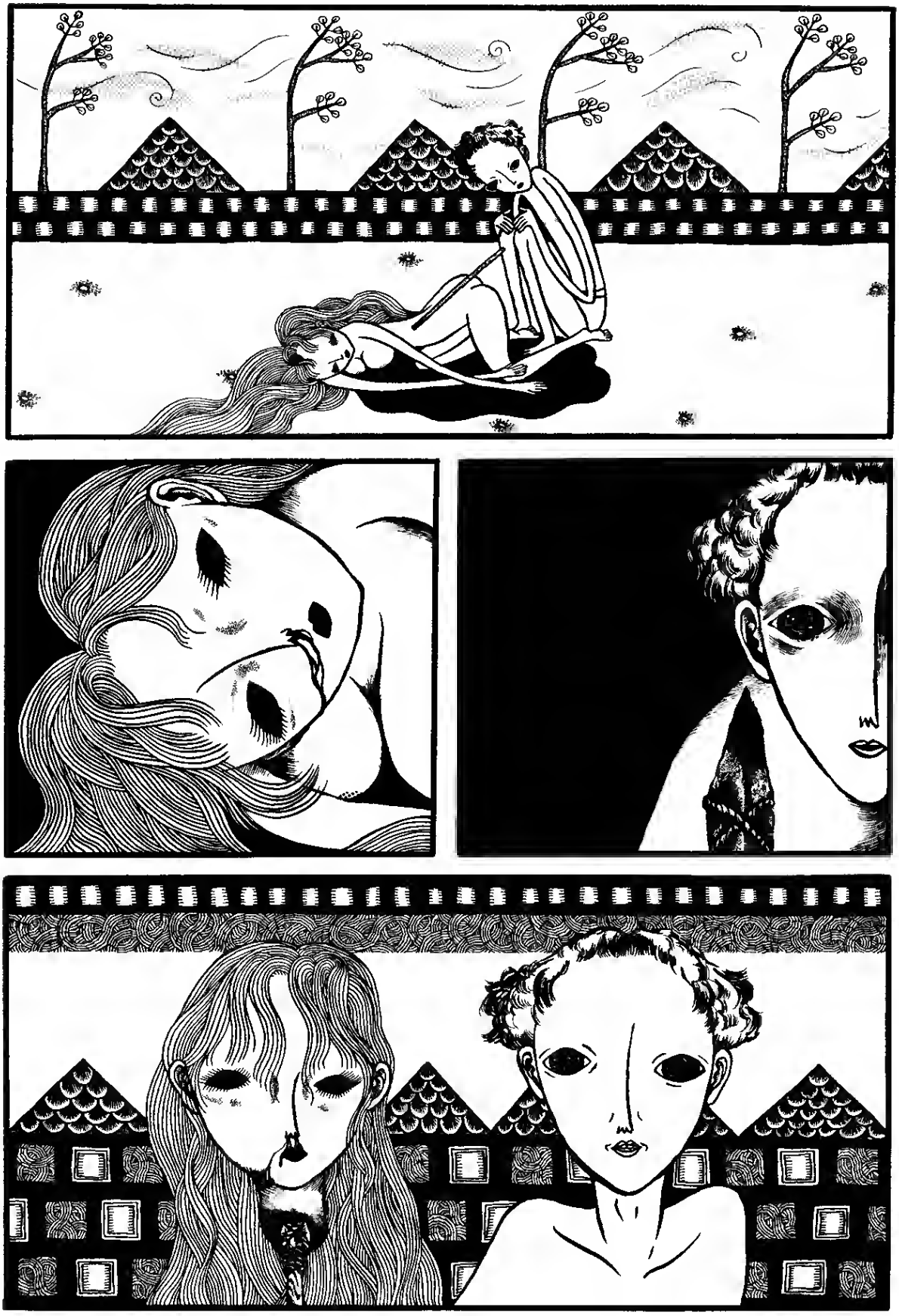
A Windy Day

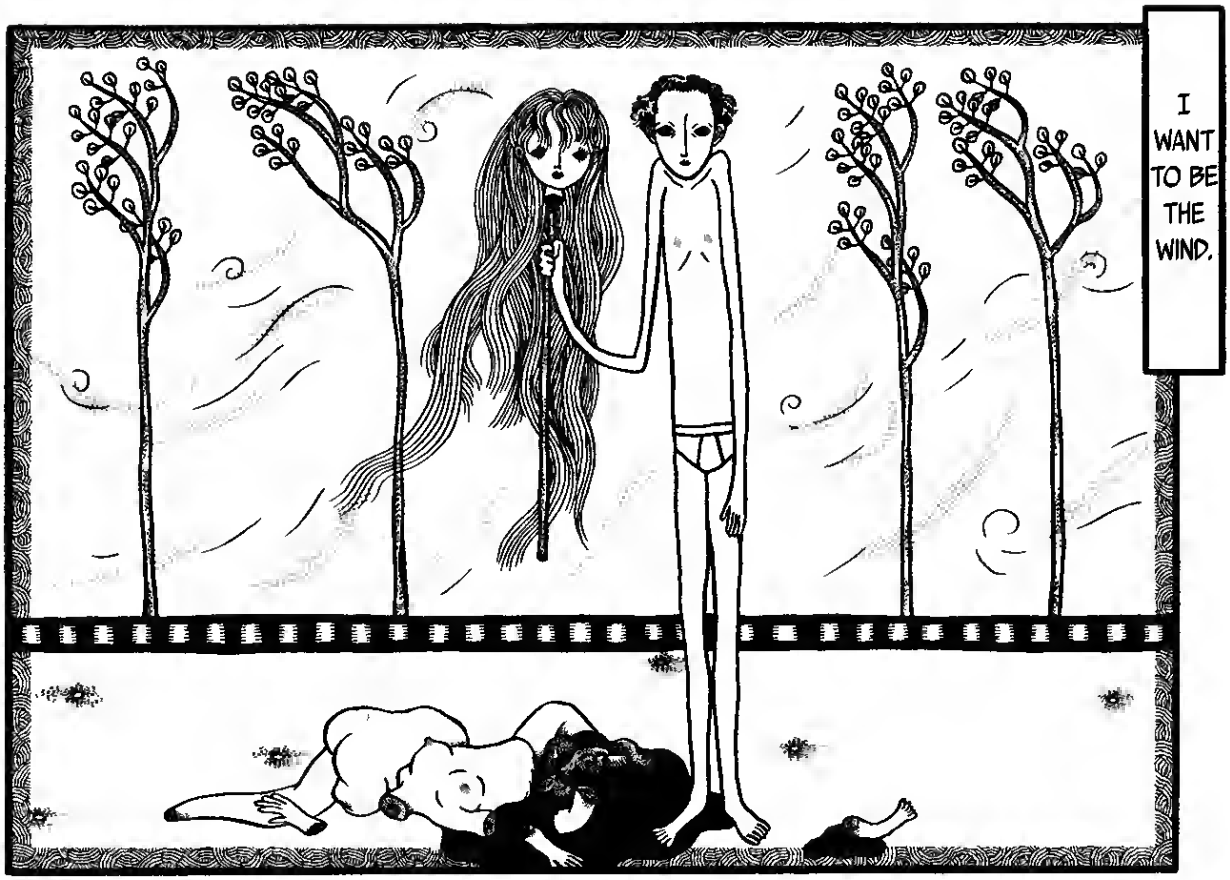


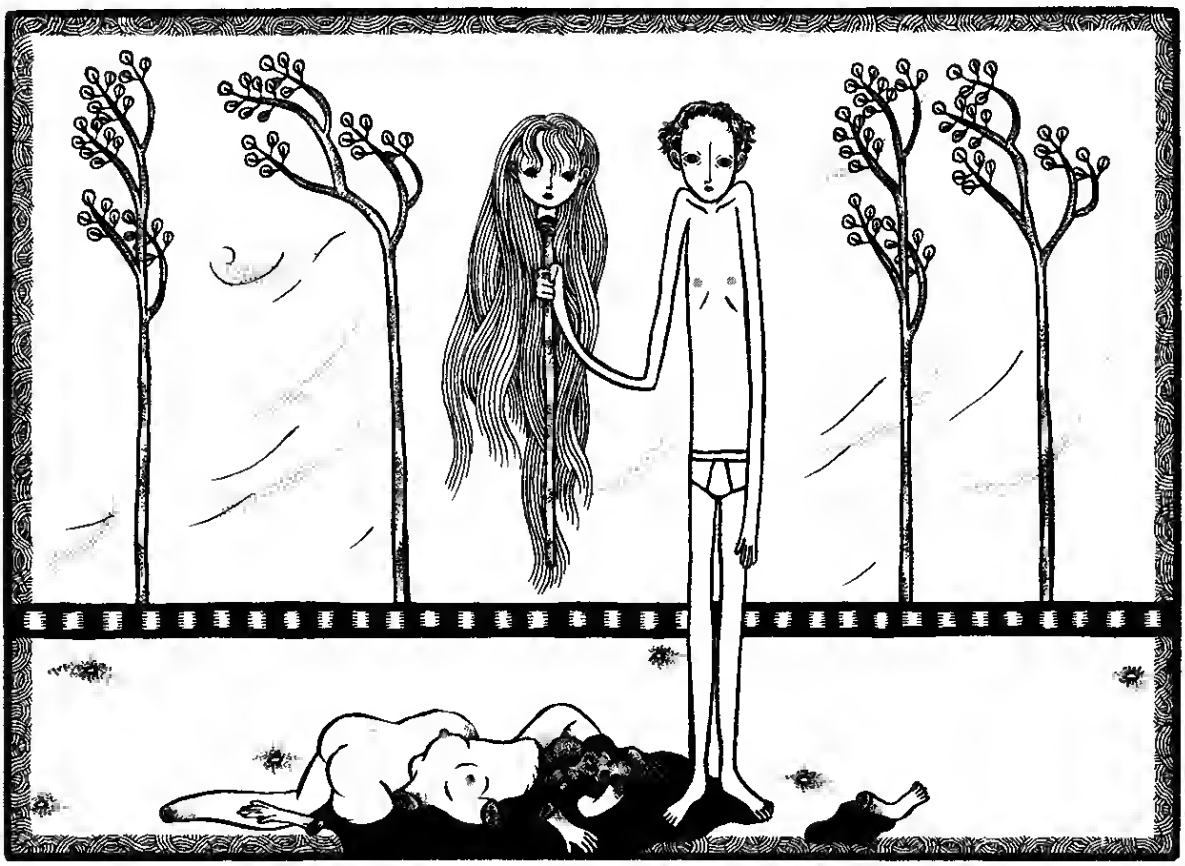

THE WIND
IS BLOW-ING OUT-SIDE MY WIN-DOW.

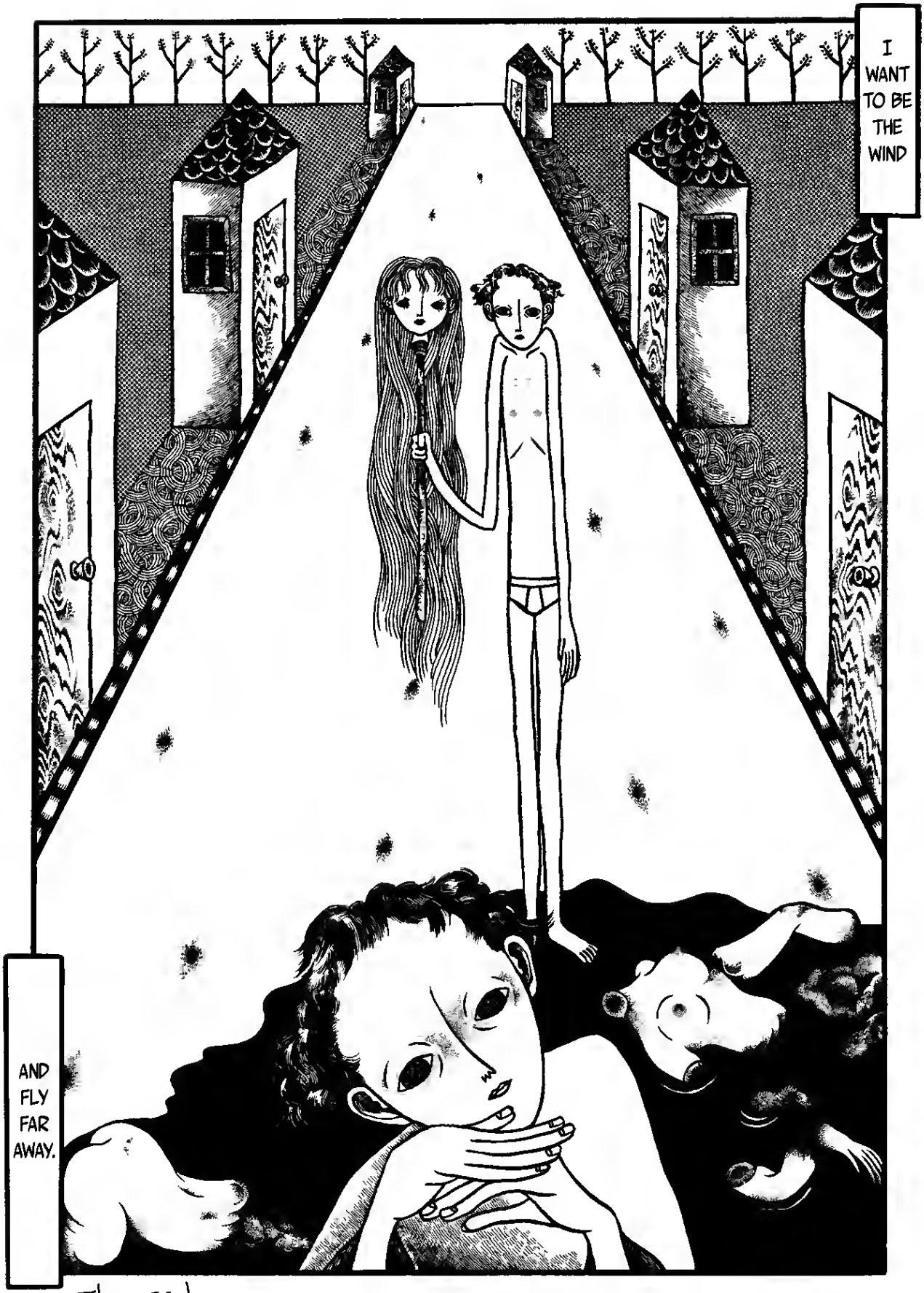

I CAN DRIVE THEM AWAY WITH MY SPEAR.
WITH MY SPEAR ...


WHOOSH



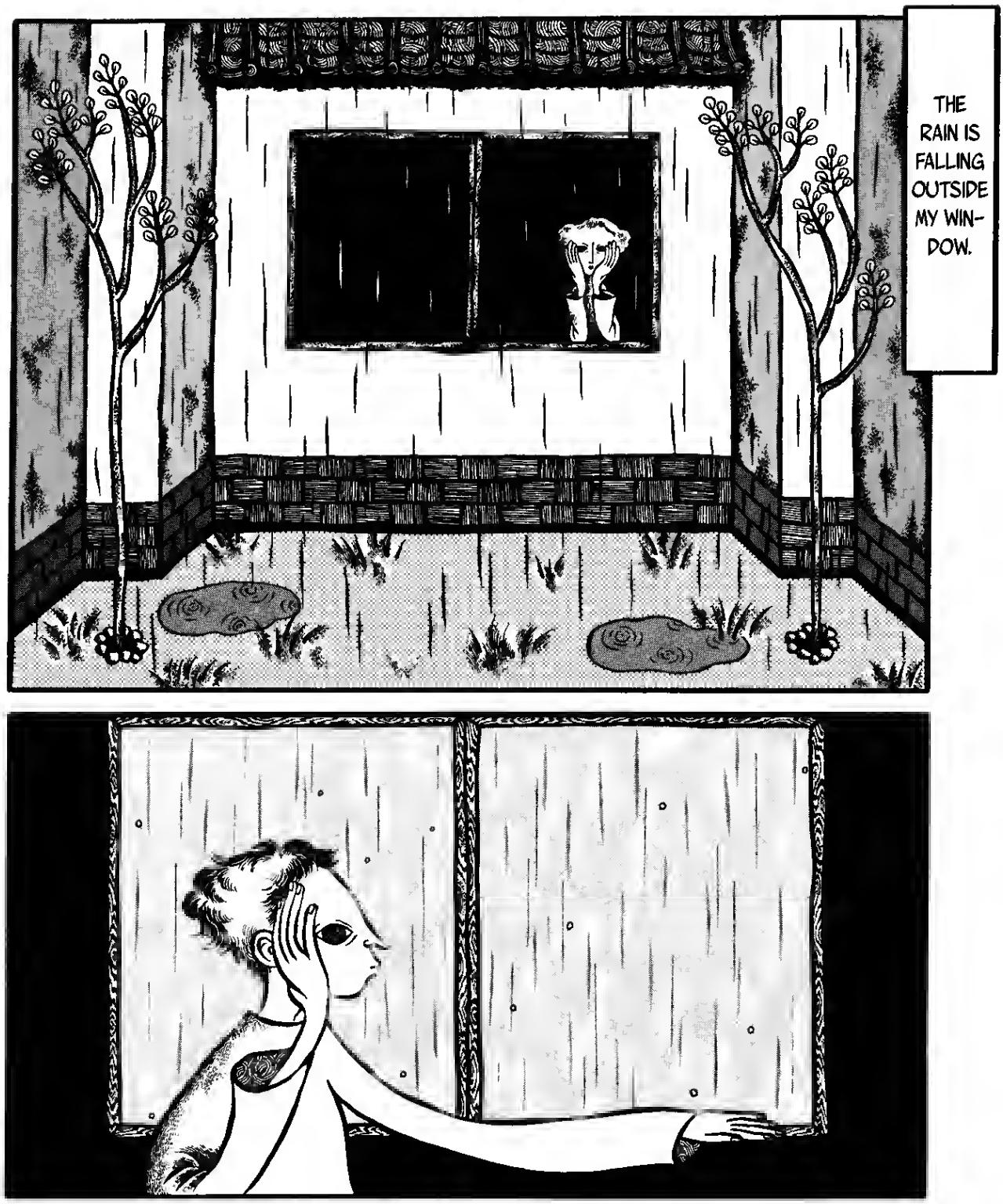

I WANT TO BE THE WIND.

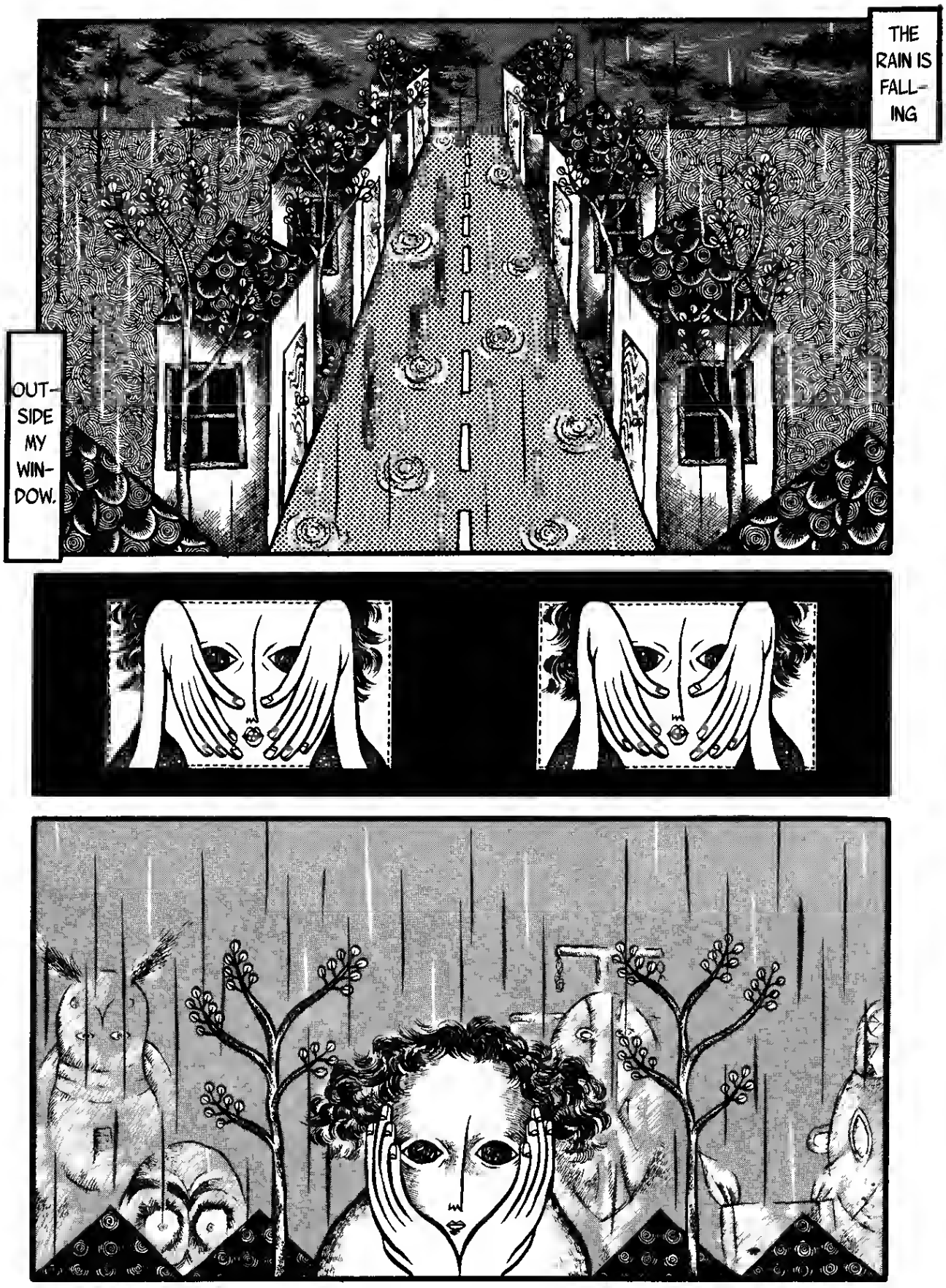


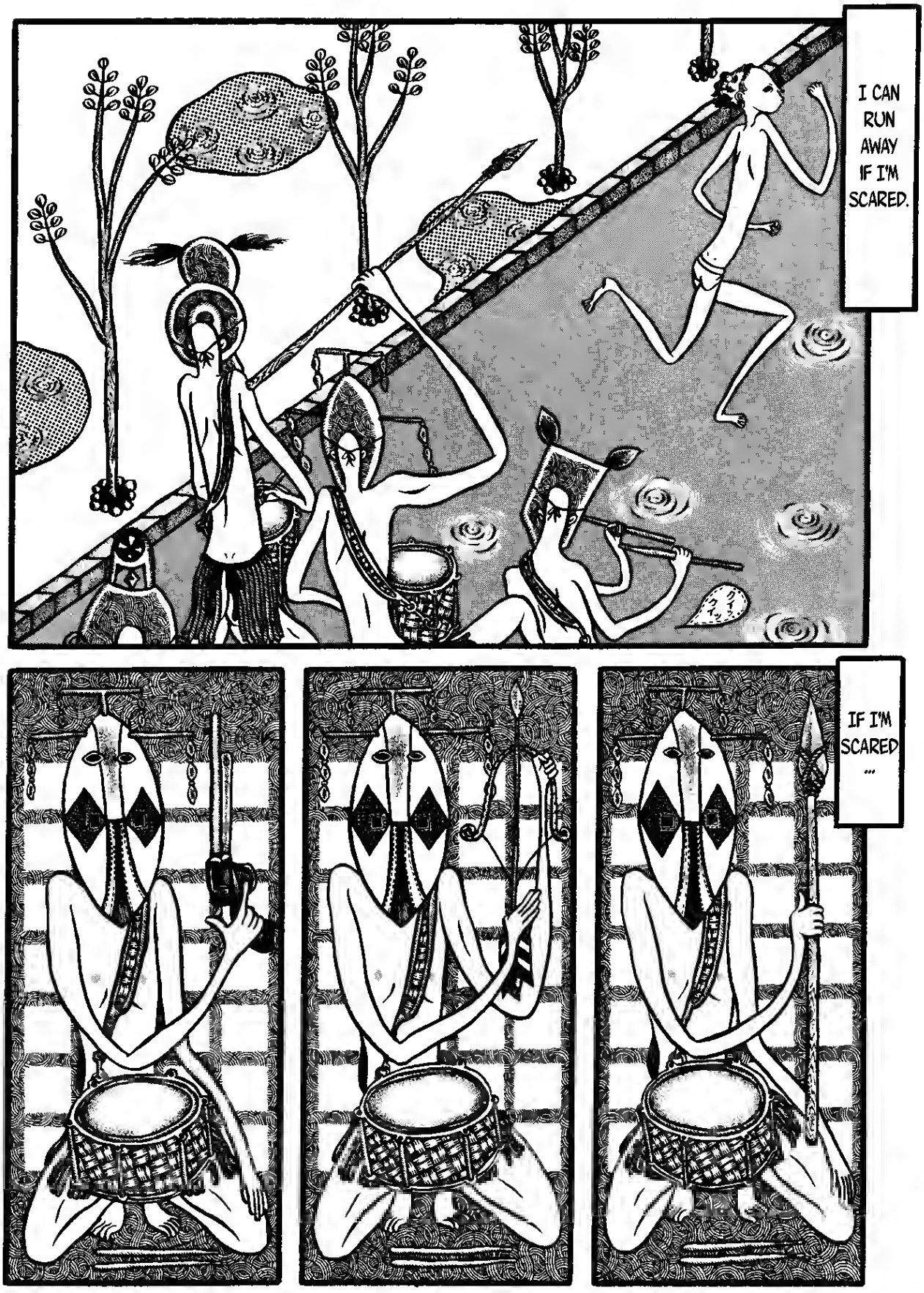


The End

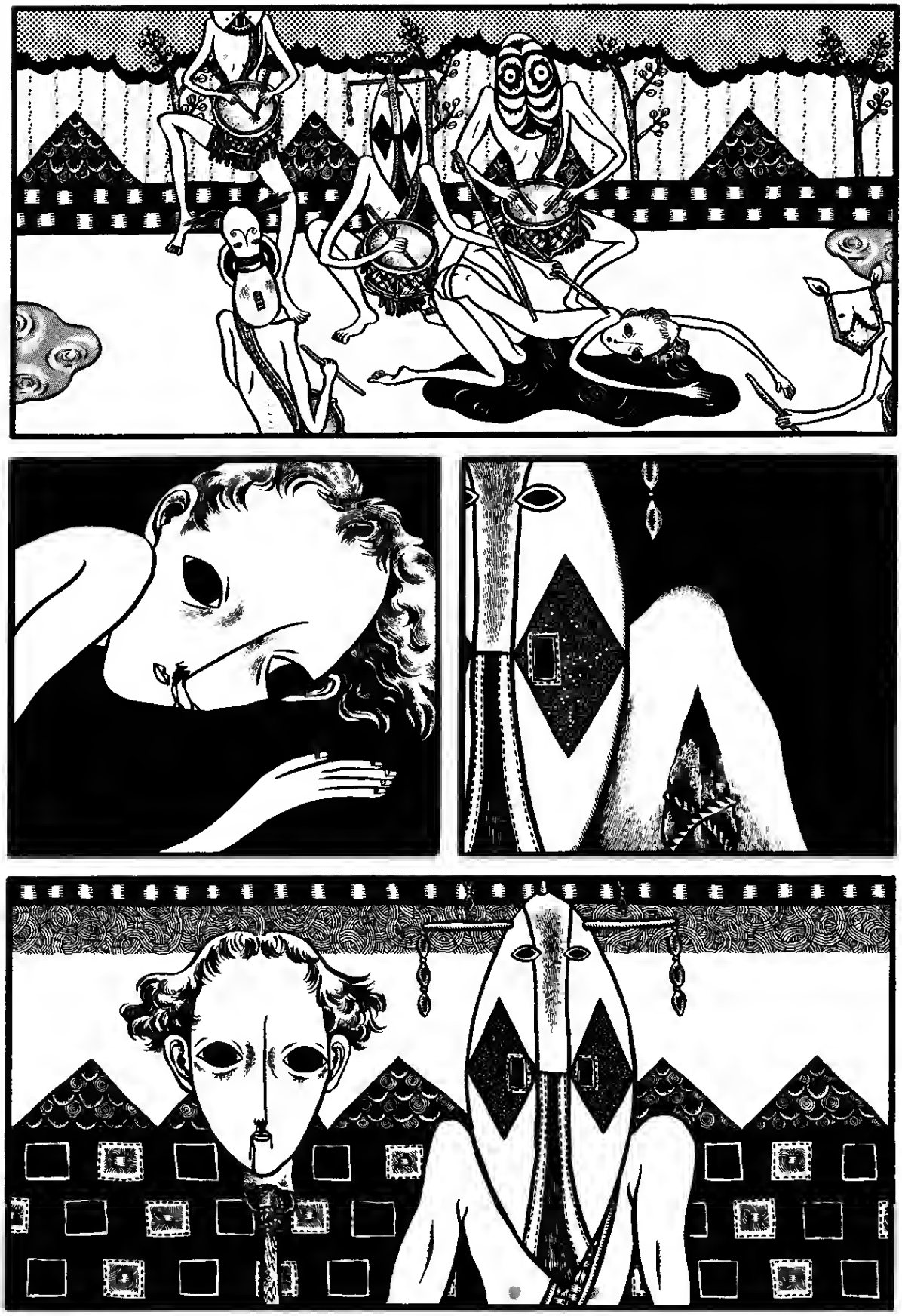
A RAINY DAY

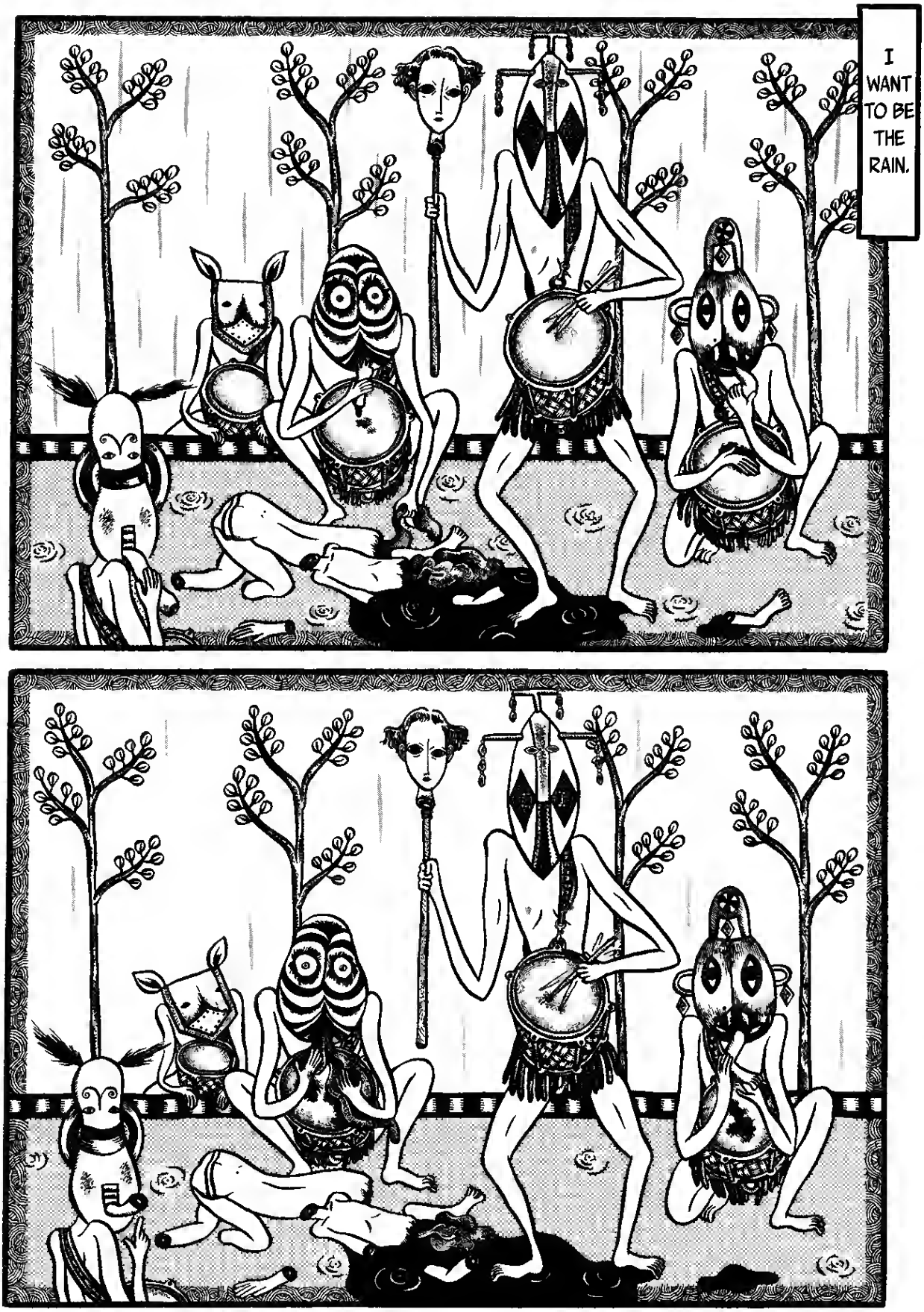



THE RAIN IS FALL-ING
OUT-SIDE MY WIN-DOW.


I CAN RUN AWAY IF I'M SCARED.
IF I'M SCARED ...

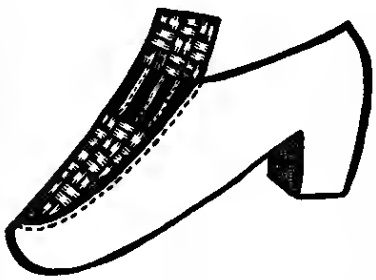
WHOOSH

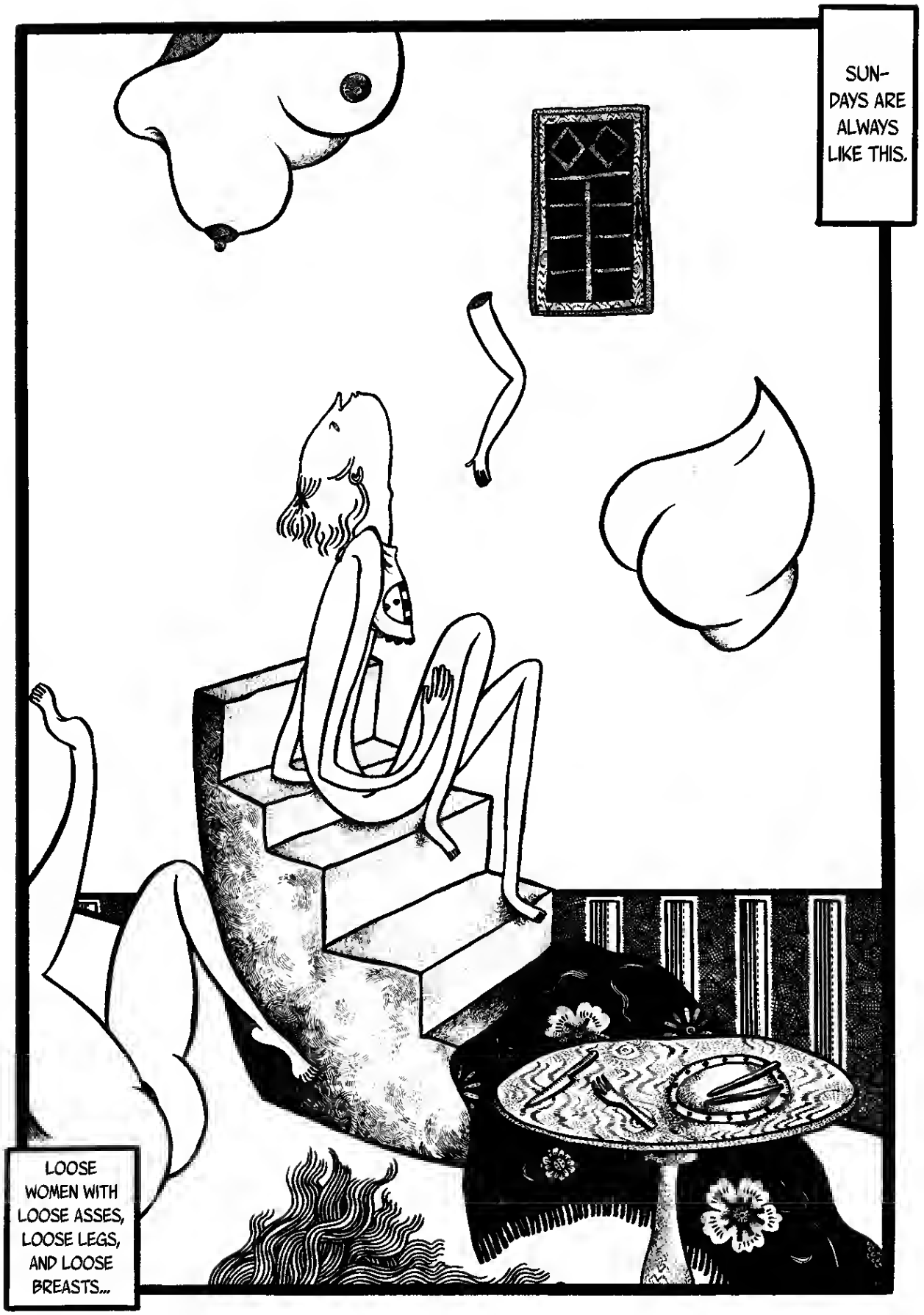


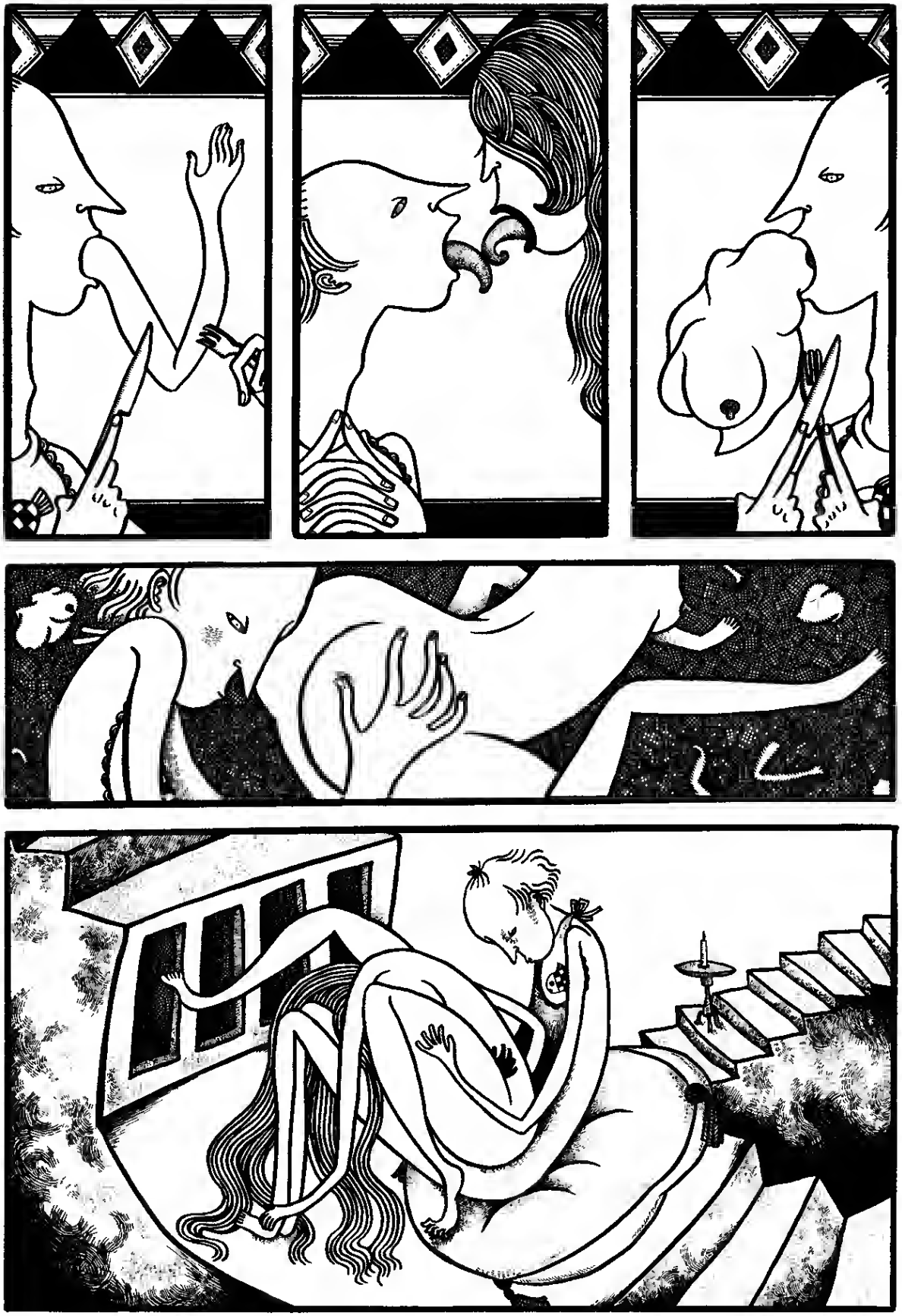

I WANT TO BE THE RAIN.

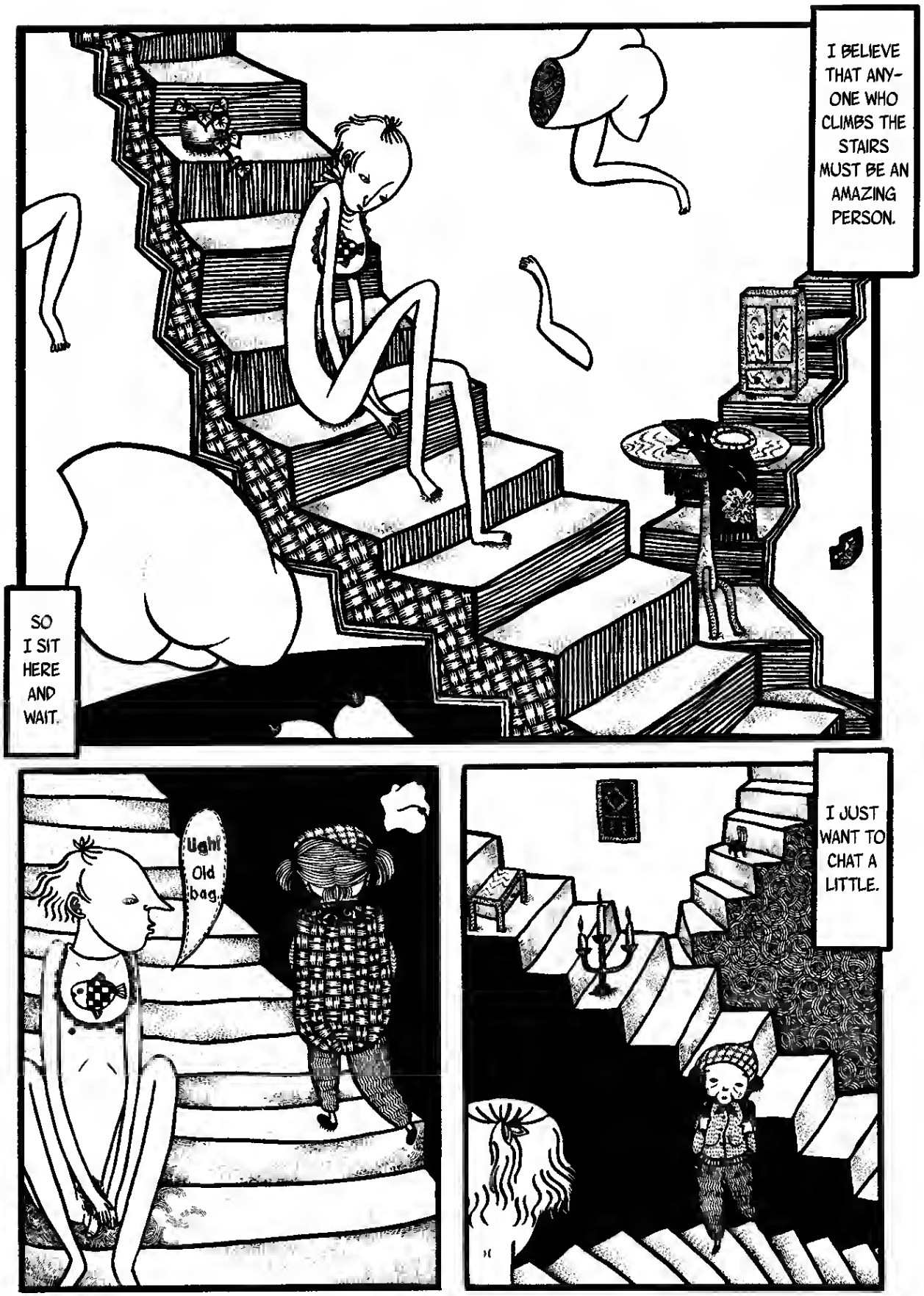
The End

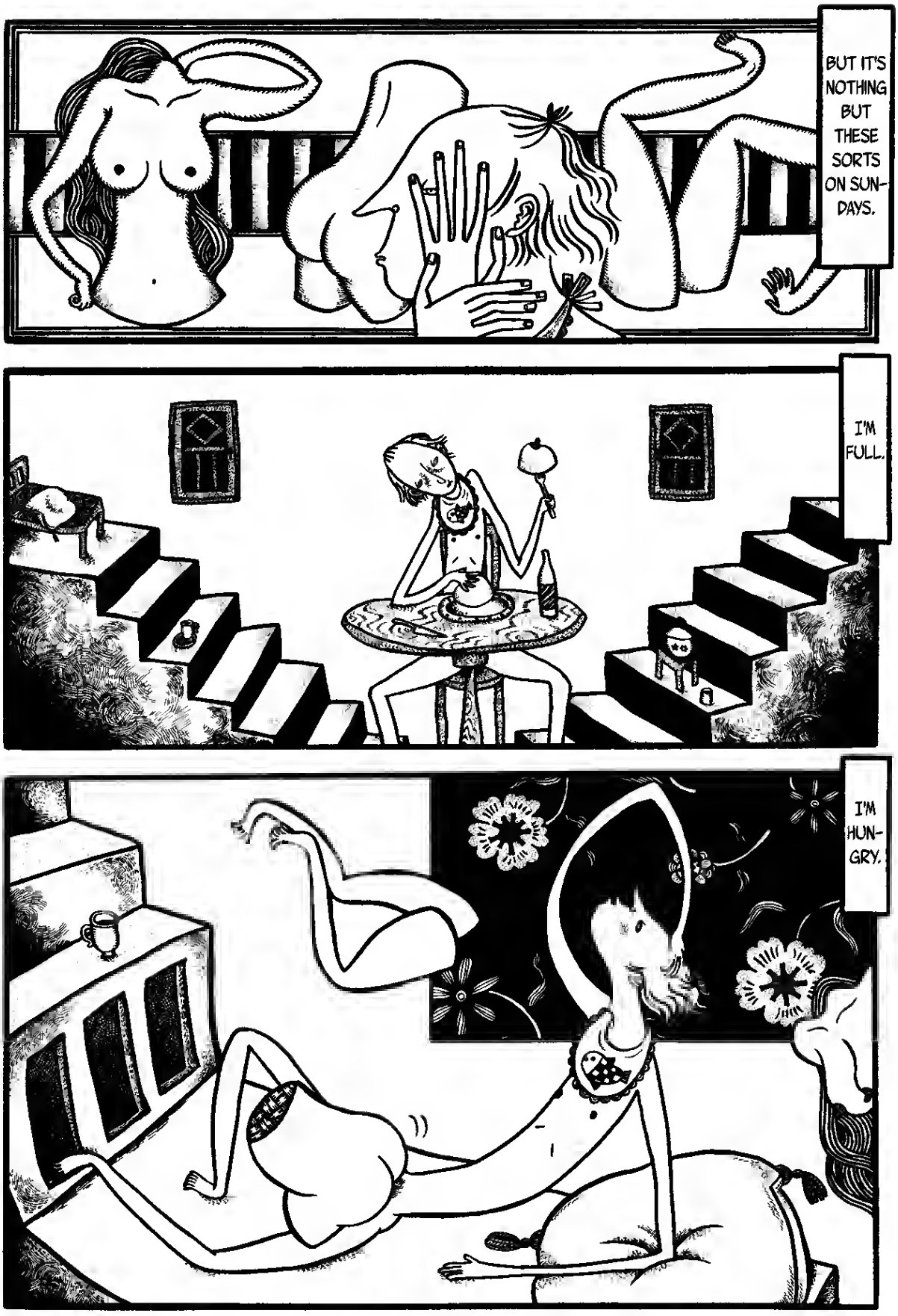
SUNDAY

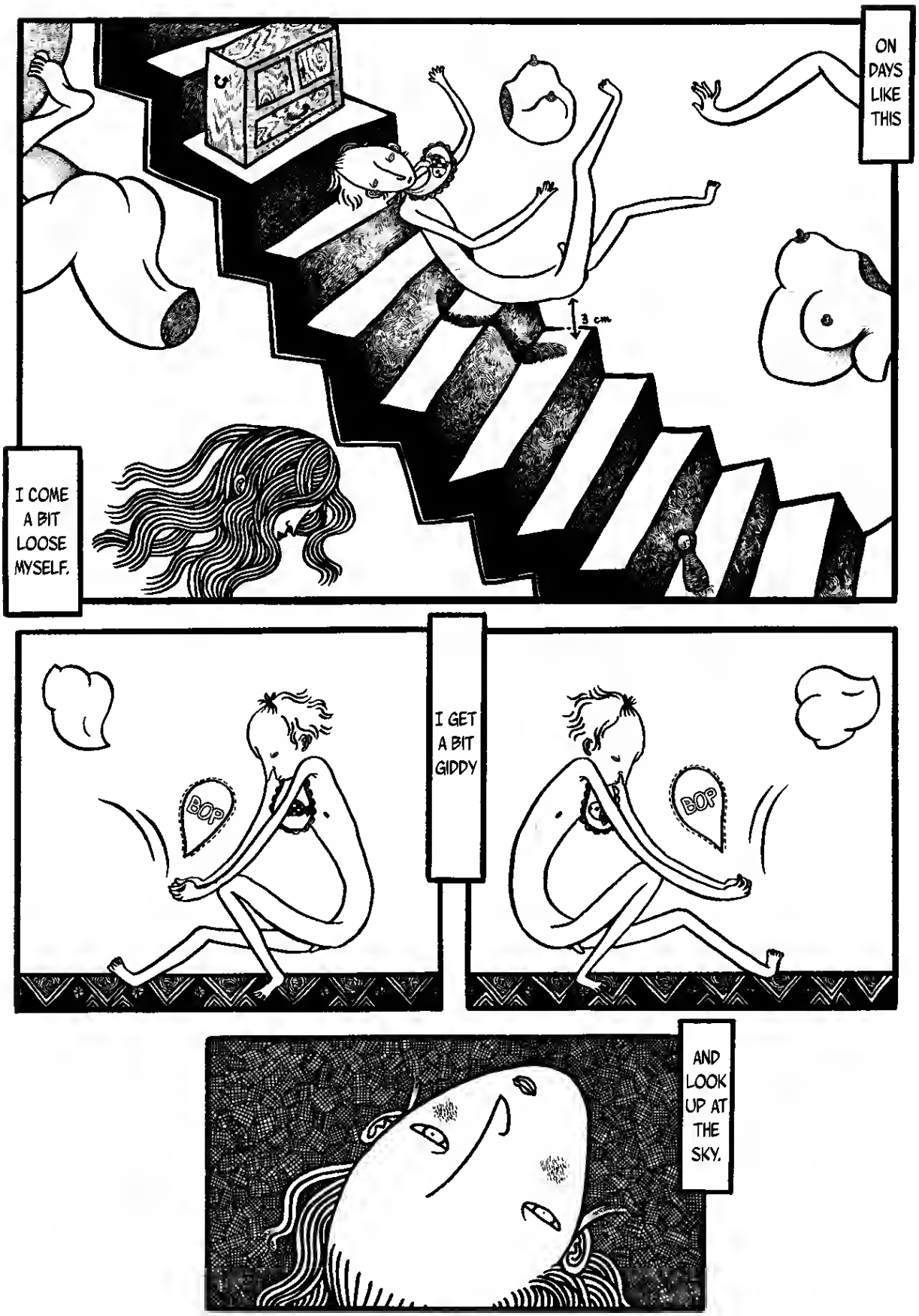


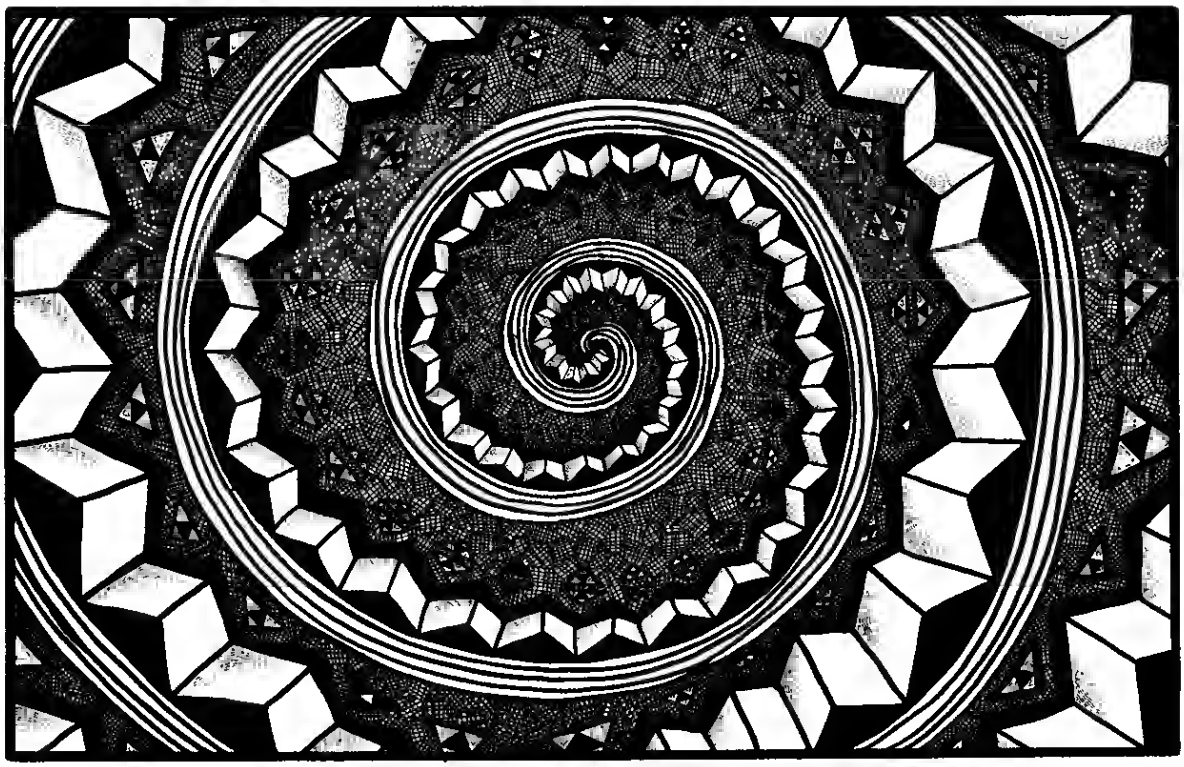

SUN-
DAYS ARE
ALWAYS
LIKE THIS.
LOOSE
WOMEN WITH
LOOSE ASSES,
LOOSE LEGS,
AND LOOSE
BREASTS...



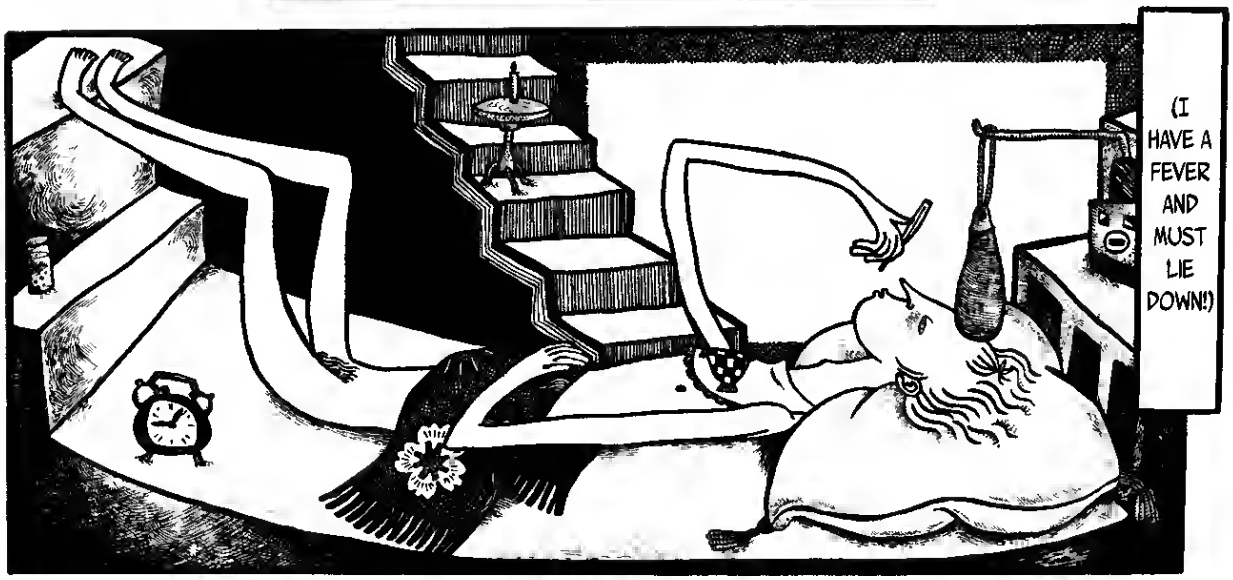

I BELIEVE THAT ANY-ONE WHO CLIMBS THE STAIRS MUST BE AN AMAZING PERSON.
SO I SIT HERE AND WAIT.
Ugh! Old bag.
I JUST WANT TO CHAT A LITTLE.

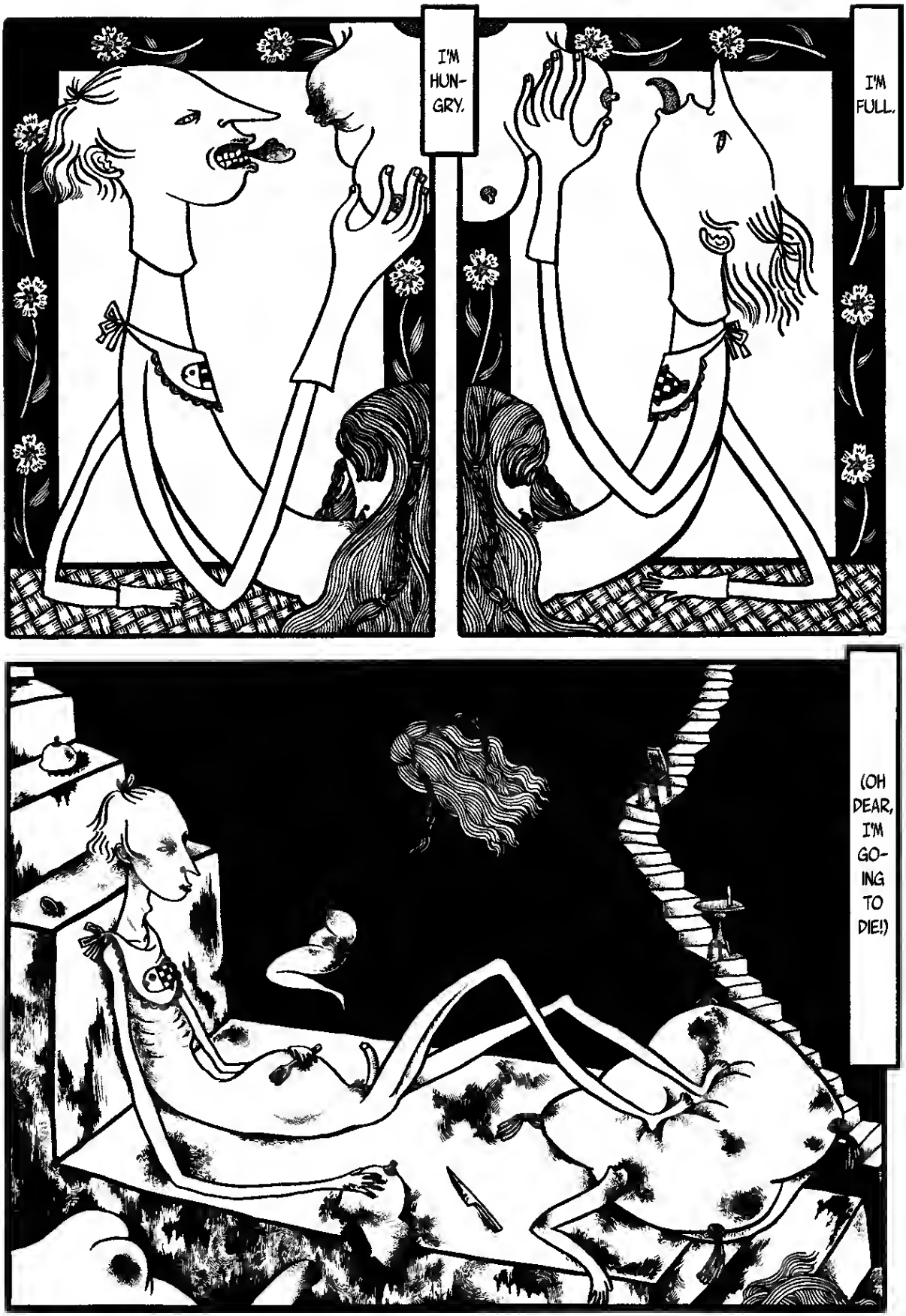

BUT IT'S NOTHING BUT THESE SORTS ON SUN-DAYS.
I'M FULL.
I'M HUN-GRY.

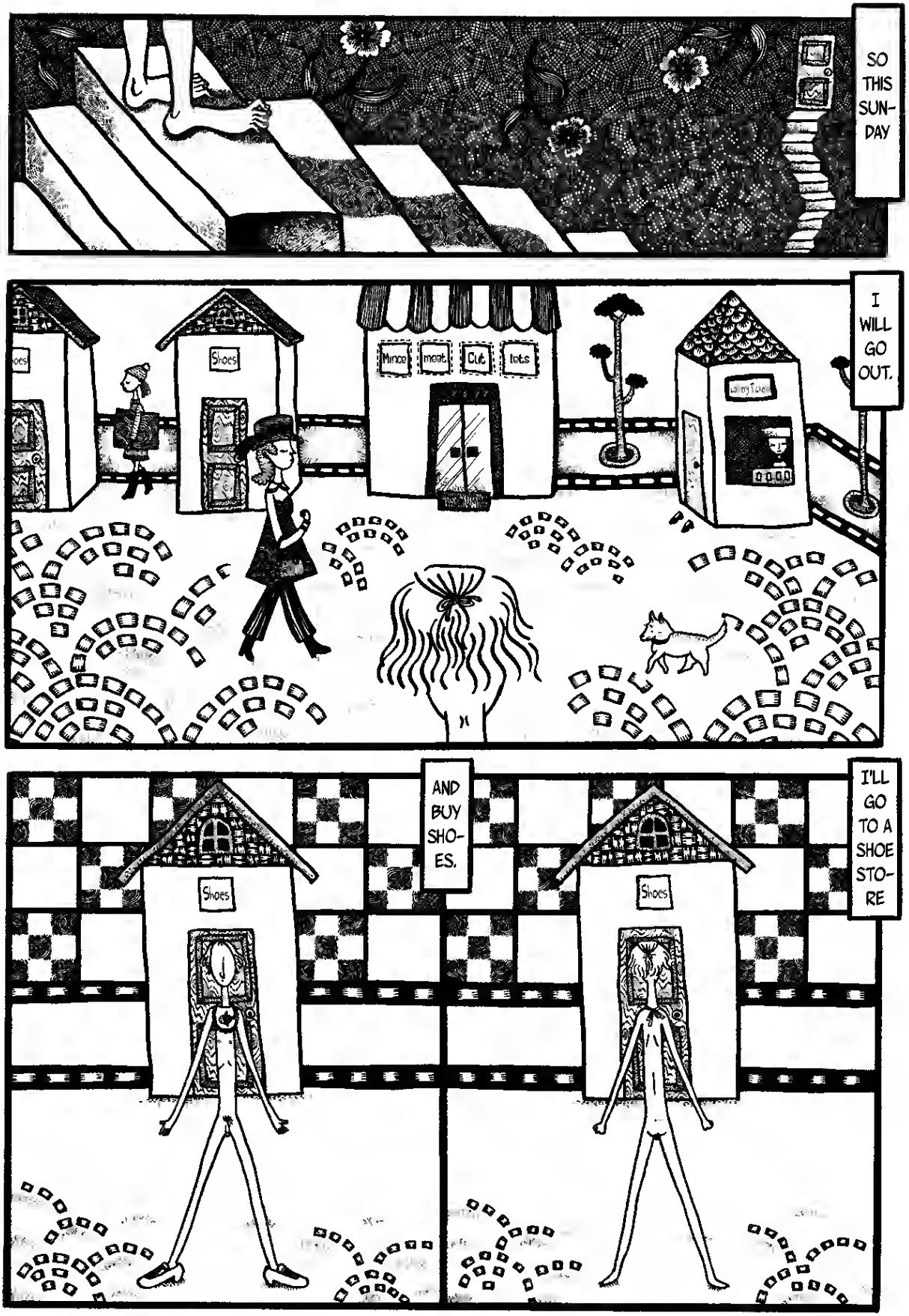

ON DAYS LIKE THIS
3 cm
I COME A BIT LOOSE MYSELF.
BOP
I GET A BIT GIDDY
BOP
AND LOOK UP AT THE SKY.

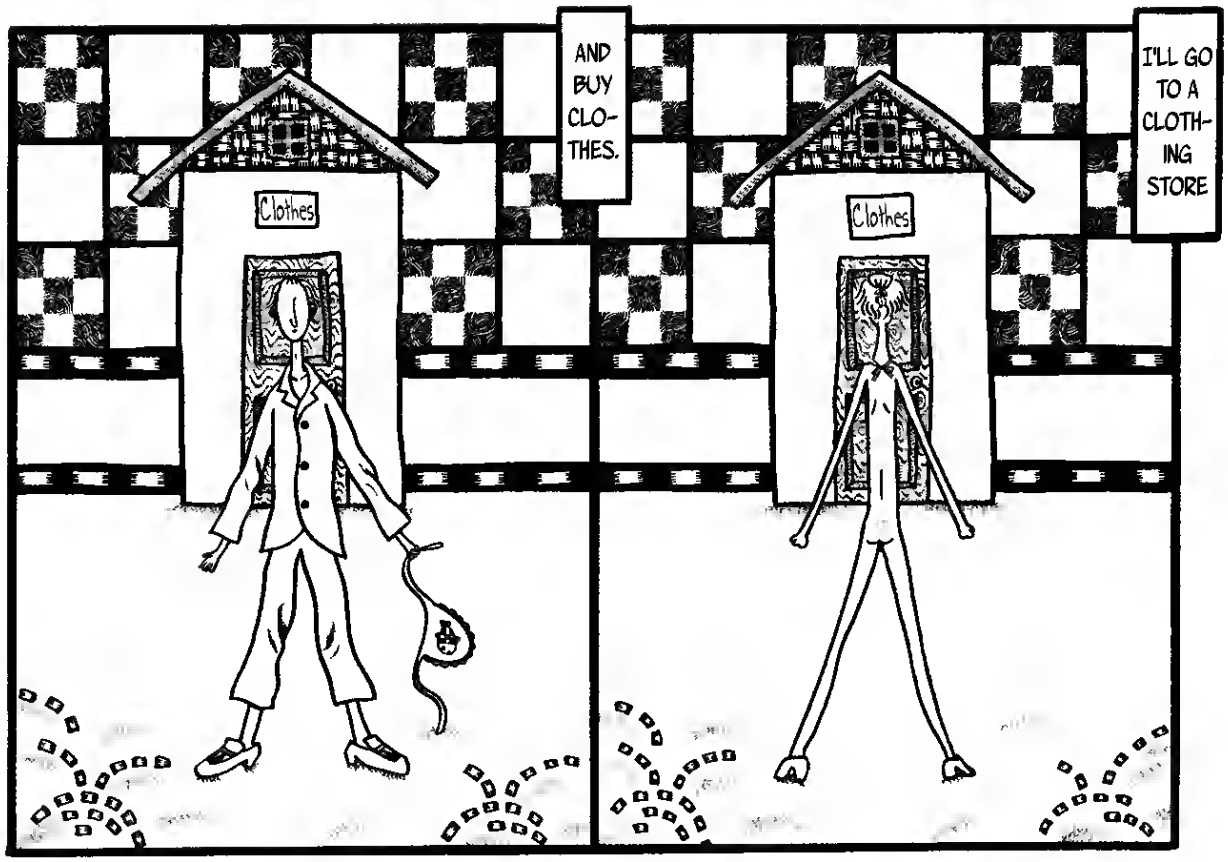


OH DEAR.

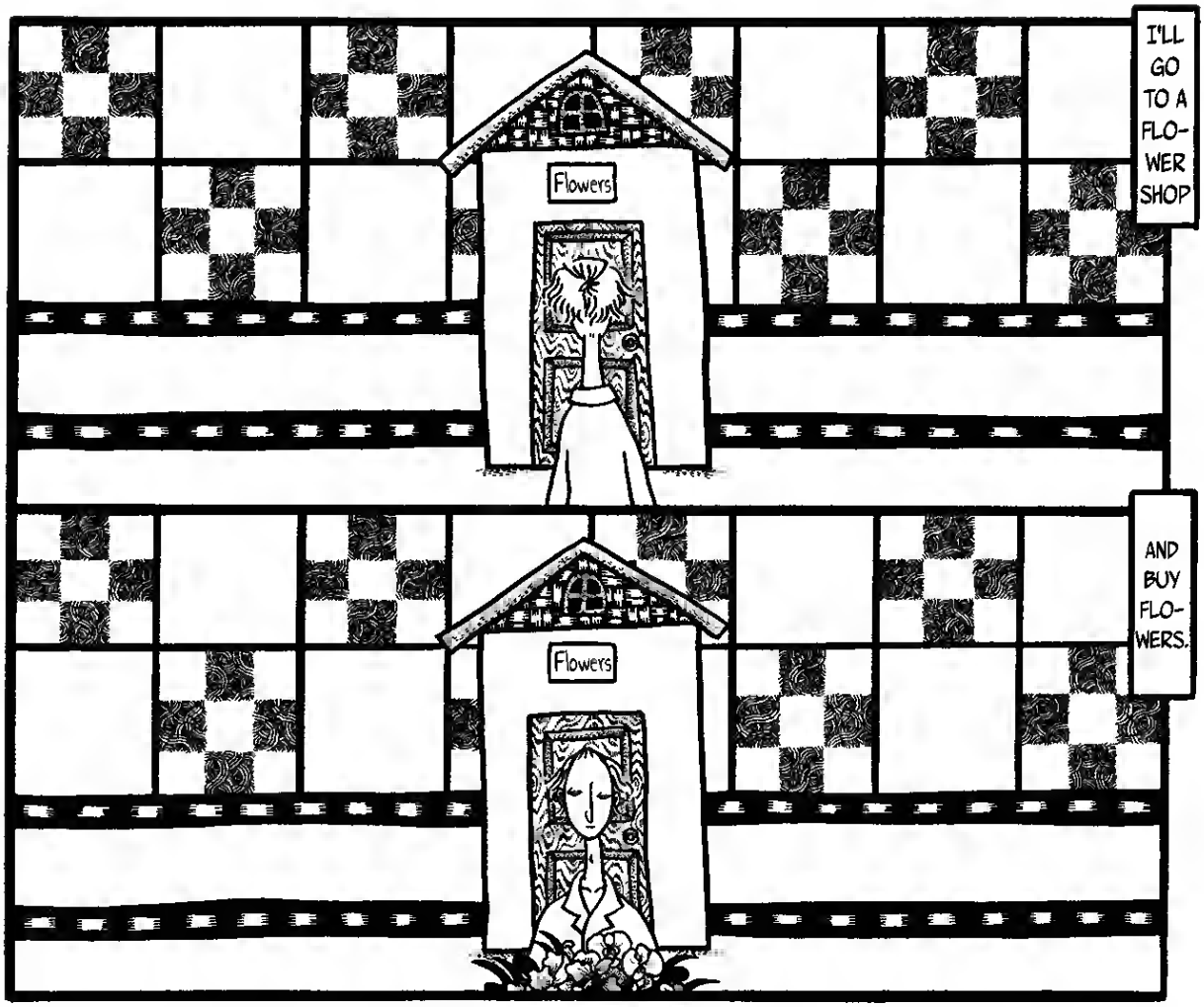

(I HAVE A FEVER AND MUST LIE DOWN!)

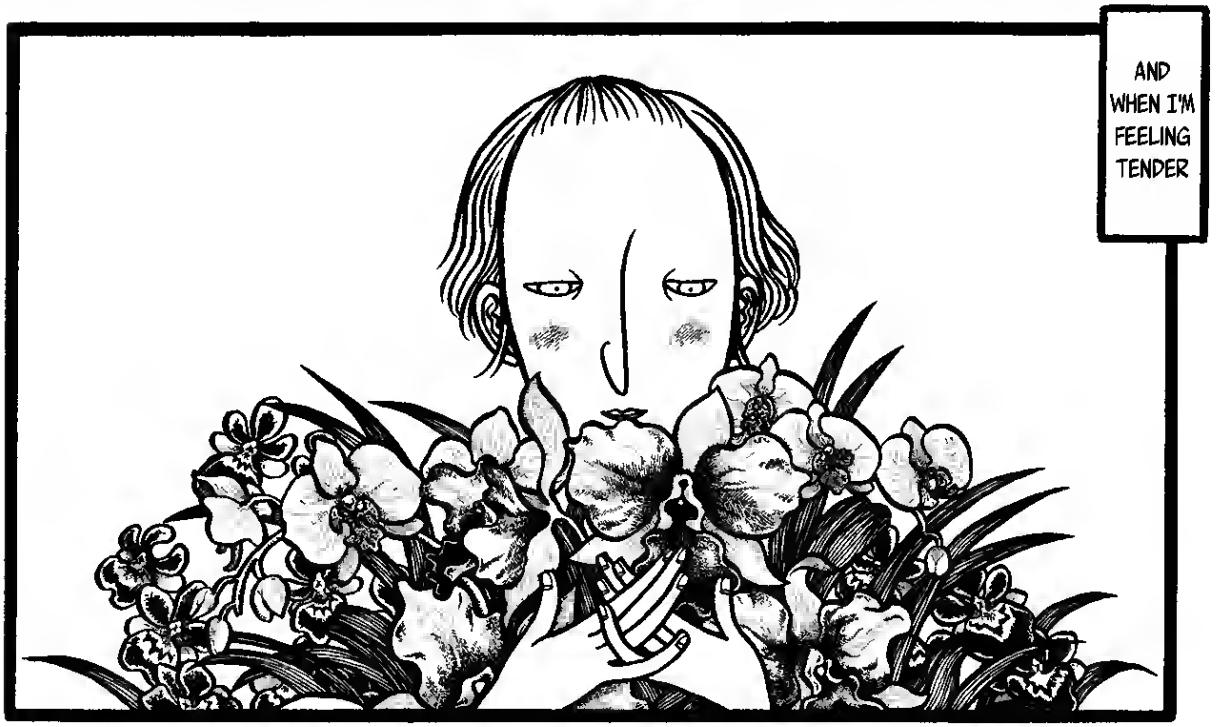

I'M HUN-GRY.
I'M FULL.
(OH DEAR, I'M GO-ING TO DIE!)


SO THIS SUN-DAY
Shoes
Mince
meat
Cut
tats
I WILL GO OUT.
AND BUY SHO-ES.
I'LL GO TO A SHOE STO-RE
Shoes
Shoes


AND BUY CLO-THES.
I'LL GO TO A CLOTH-ING STORE
Clothes
Clothes

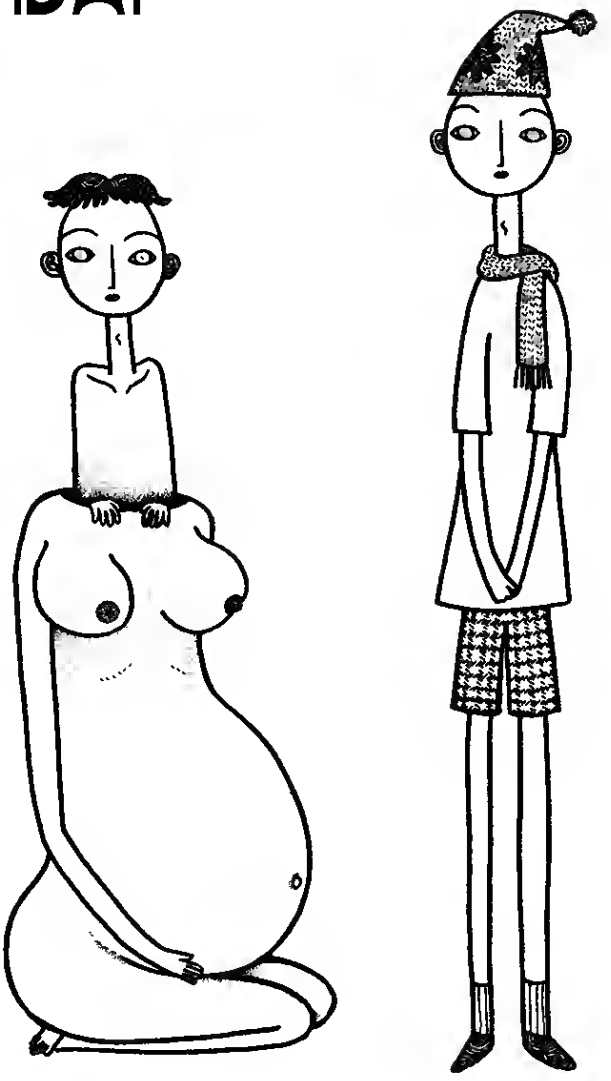
I'LL SKIP.

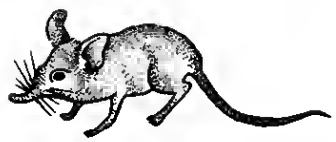

Flowers
I'LL GO TO A FLO-WER SHOP
Flowers
AND BUY FLO-WERS.


AND WHEN I'M FEELING TENDER

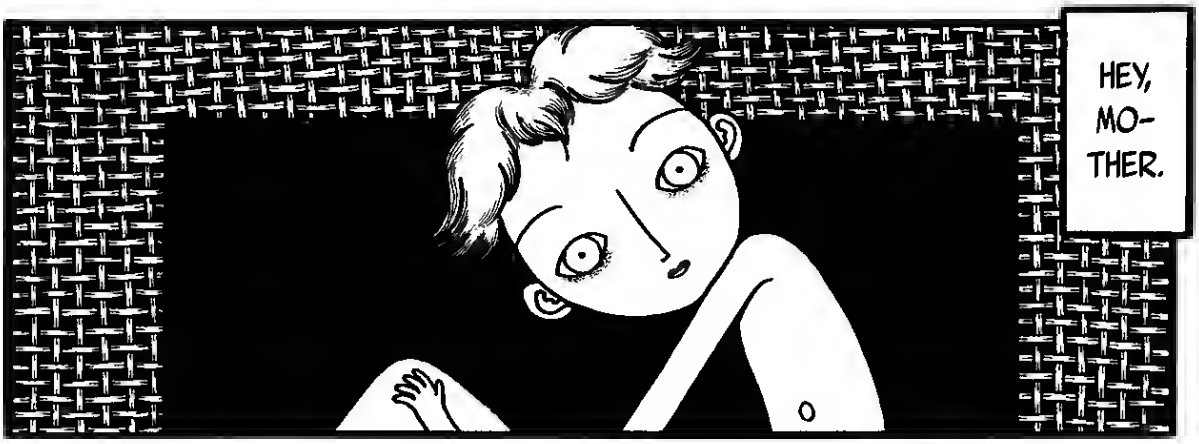
I'LL GO TO THE BUT-CHER AND TALK OF LOVE.

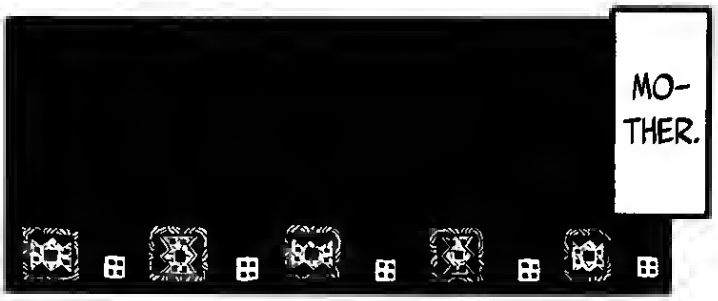
BIRTHDAY

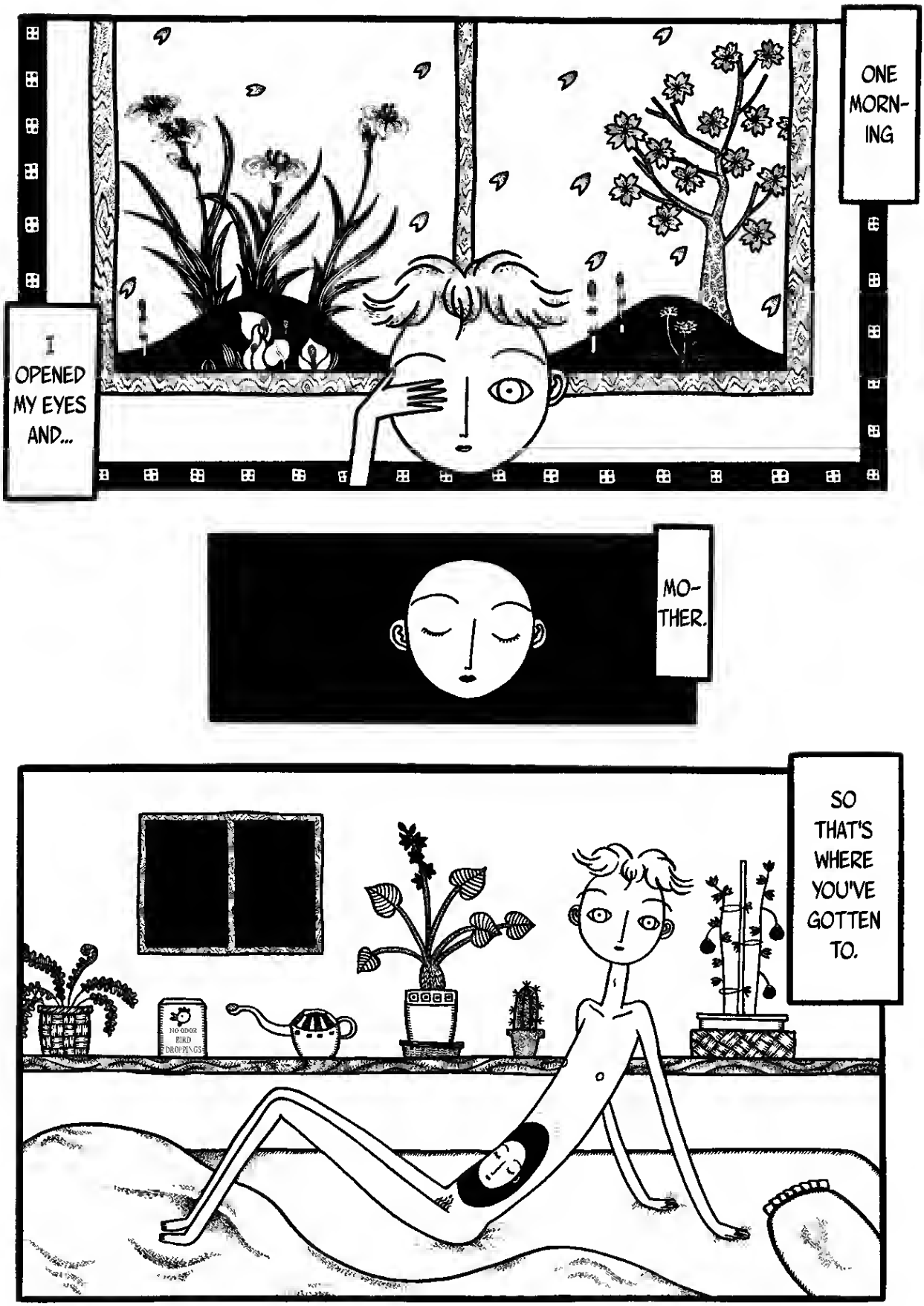




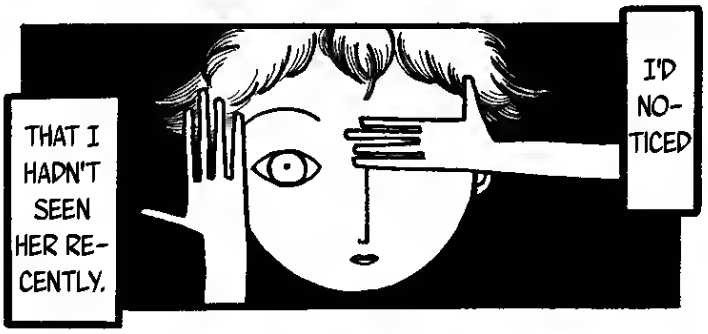
OH, MOTHER.
MO-THER.

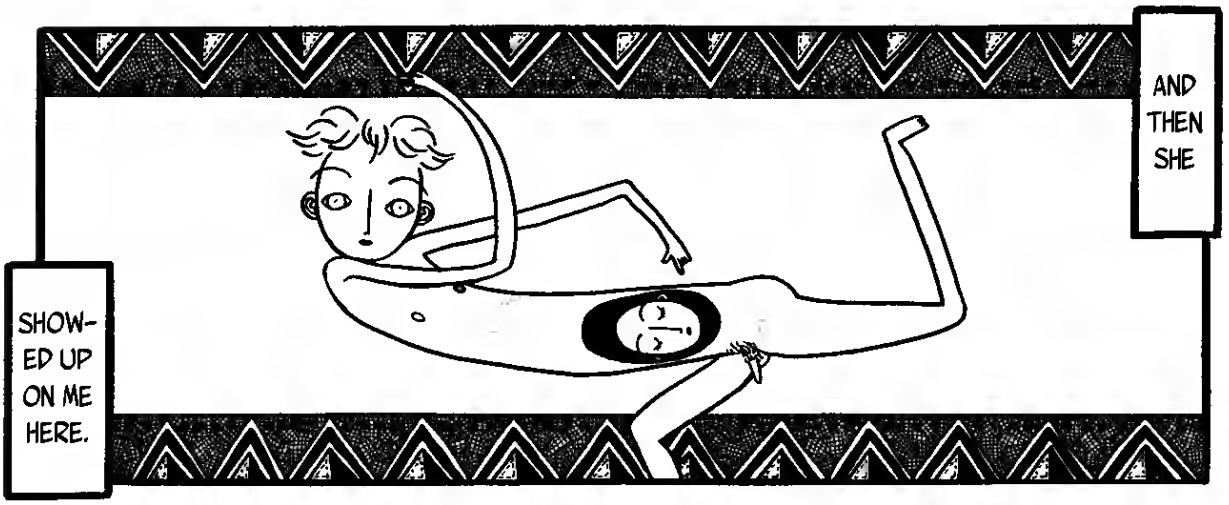

HEY, MO-THER.

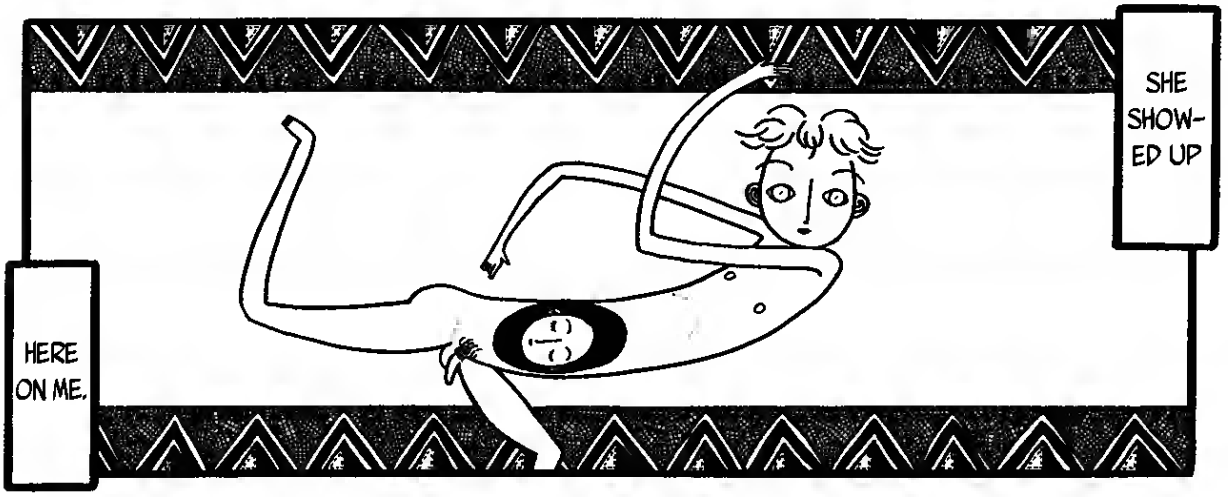

MO-THER.

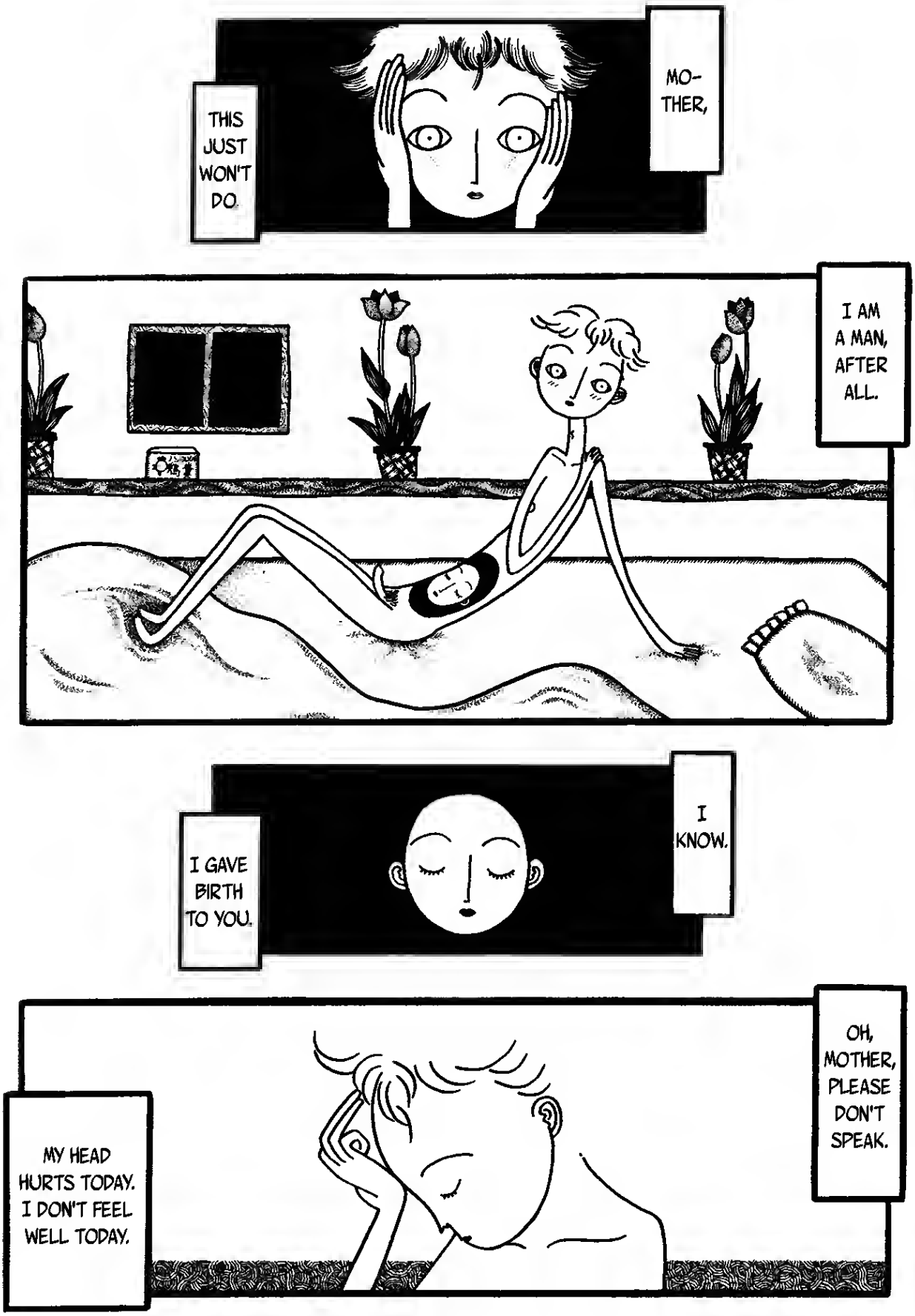

ONE MORN-ING
I OPENED MY EYES AND...
MO-THER.
SO THAT'S WHERE YOU'VE GOTTEN TO.
NO-ODOR BIRD DROPINGS

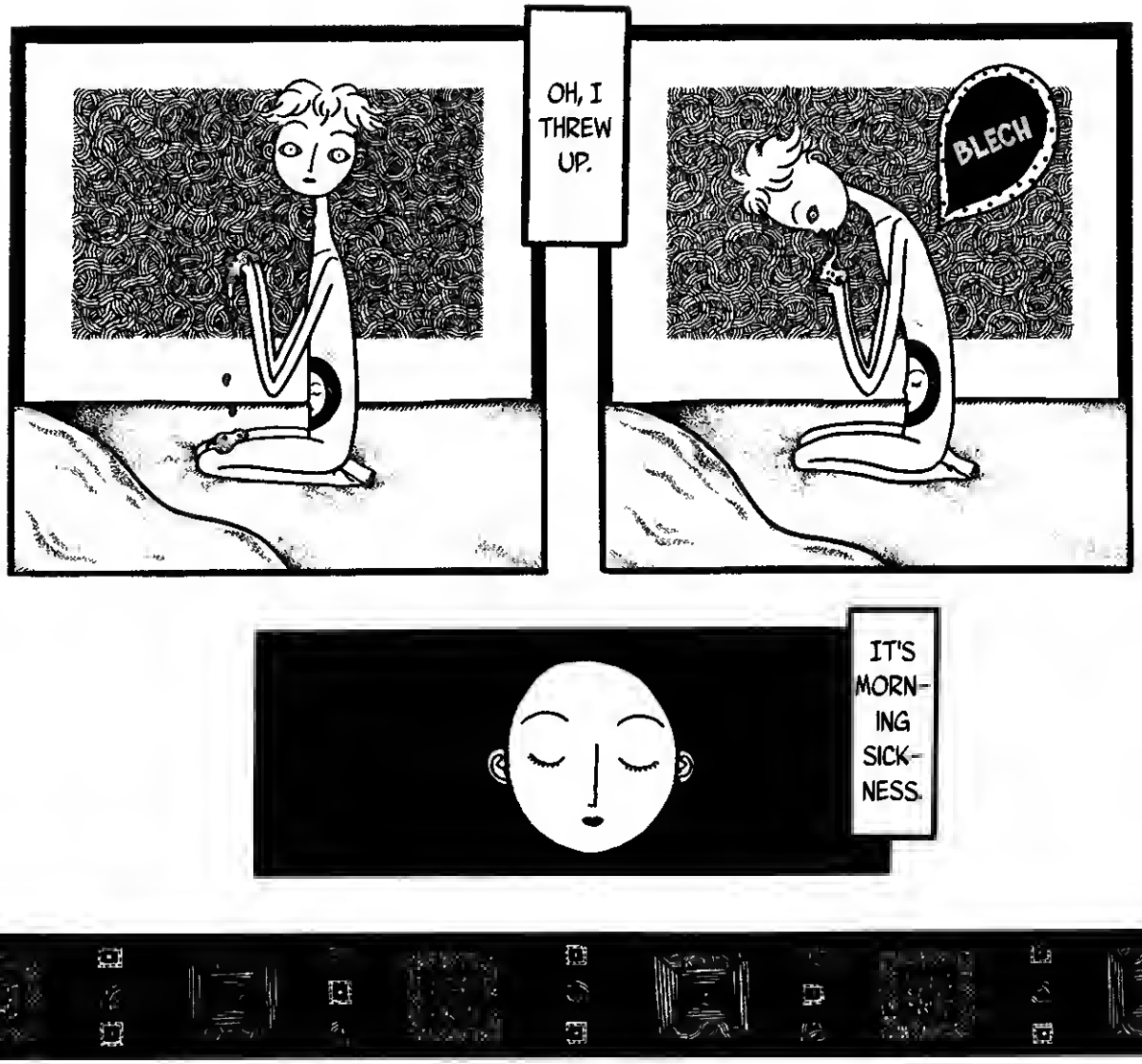
LIKE I'D SEEN IN OLD PHOTOS.
IN HER YOUN-GER DAYS,

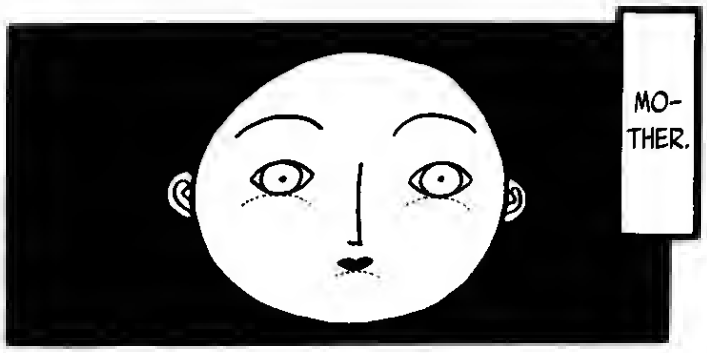

THAT I HADN'T SEEN HER RE-CENTLY.
I'D NO-TICED

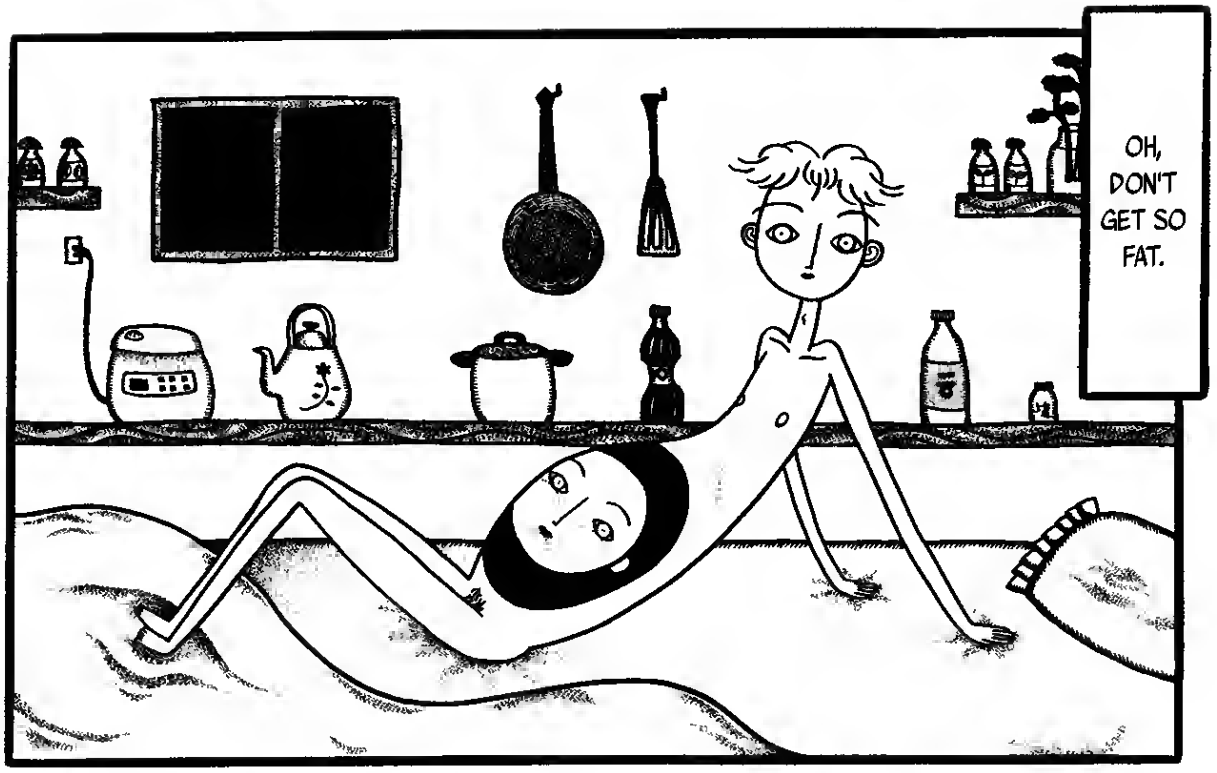

SHOW-ED UP ON ME HERE.
AND THEN SHE

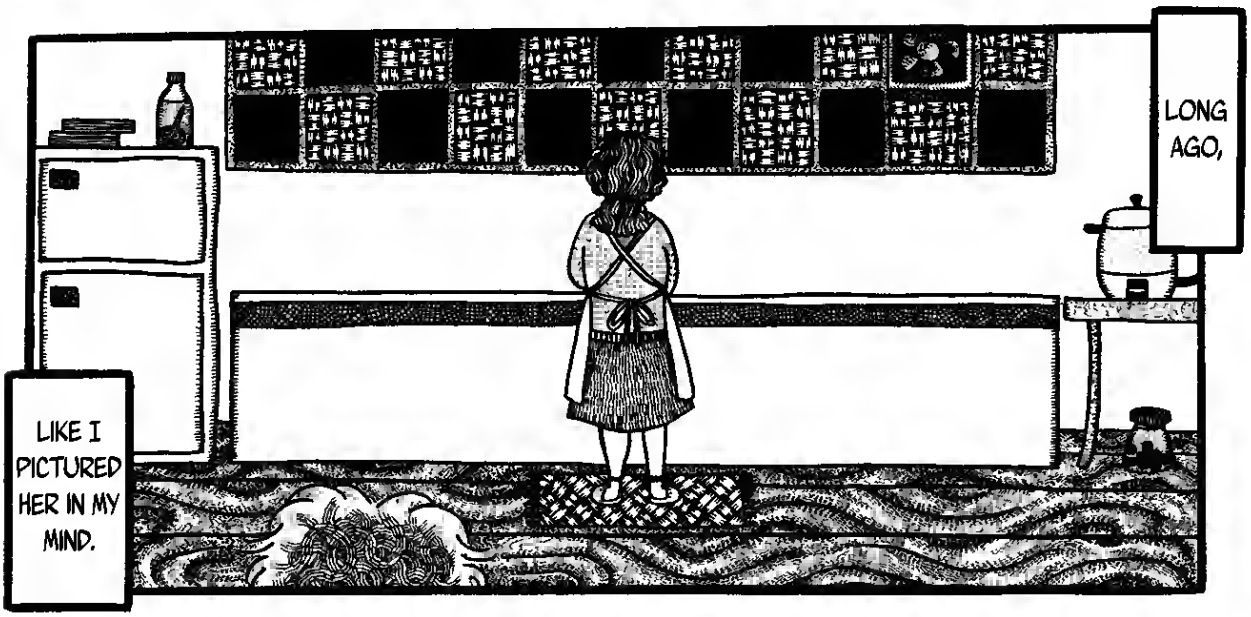

HERE ON ME.
SHE SHOW-ED UP

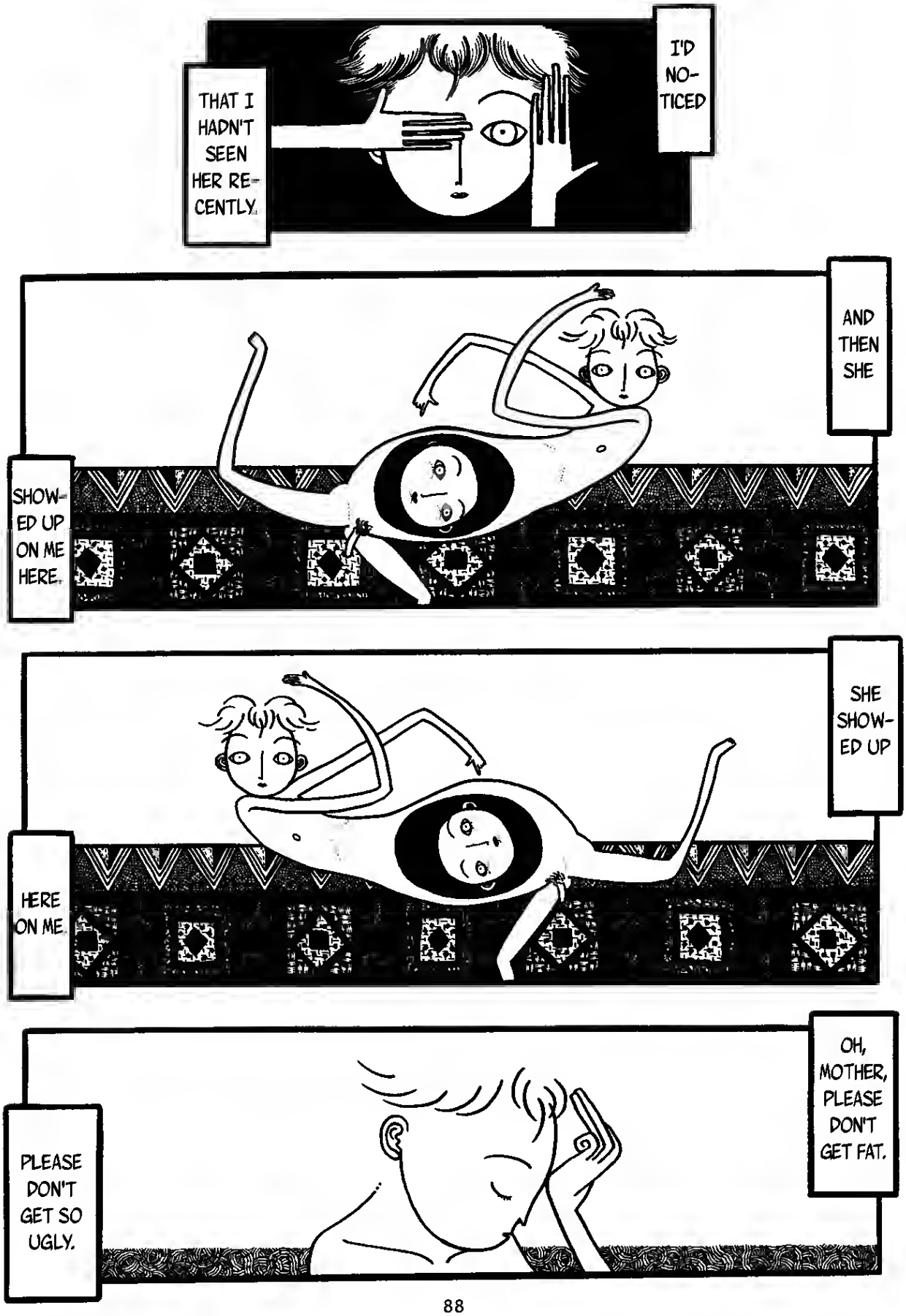

THIS JUST WON'T DO.
MO-
THER,
I AM A MAN, AFTER ALL.
I GAVE BIRTH TO YOU.
I KNOW.
MY HEAD HURTS TODAY. I DON'T FEEL WELL TODAY.
OH, MOTHER, PLEASE DON'T SPEAK.

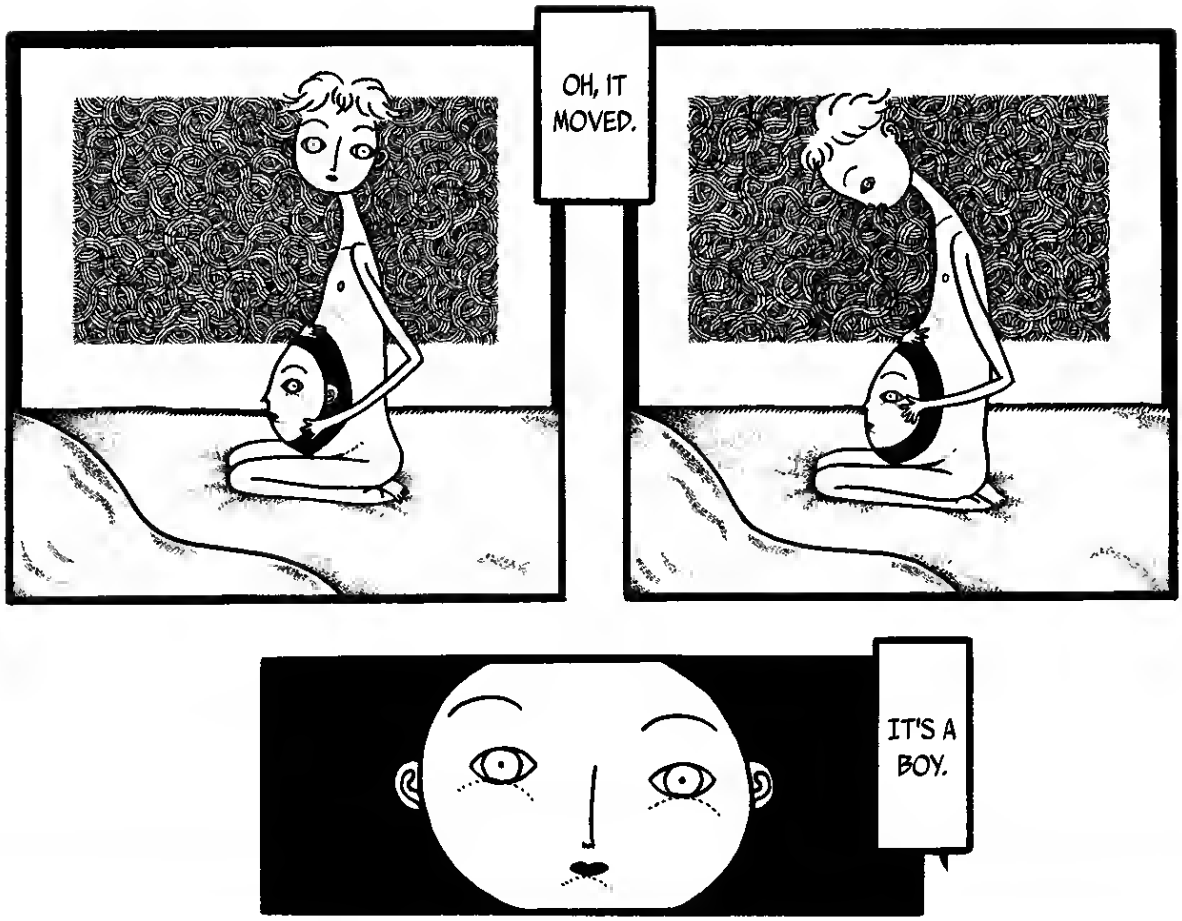

OH, I THREW UP.
BLECH
IT'S MORN-ING SICK-NESS.
DAY AFTER DAY,
I'D OPEN MY EYES AND...


MO-
THER.

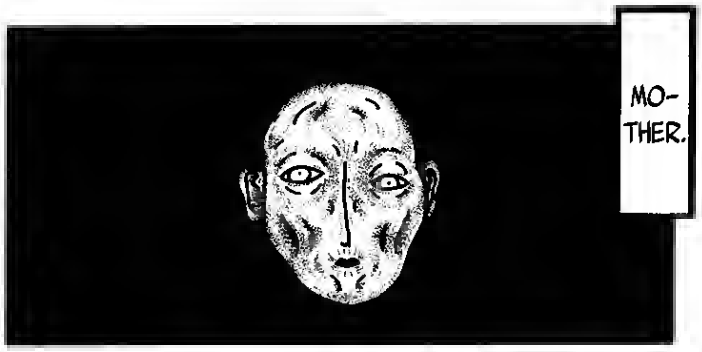

OH,
DON'T
GET SO
FAT.

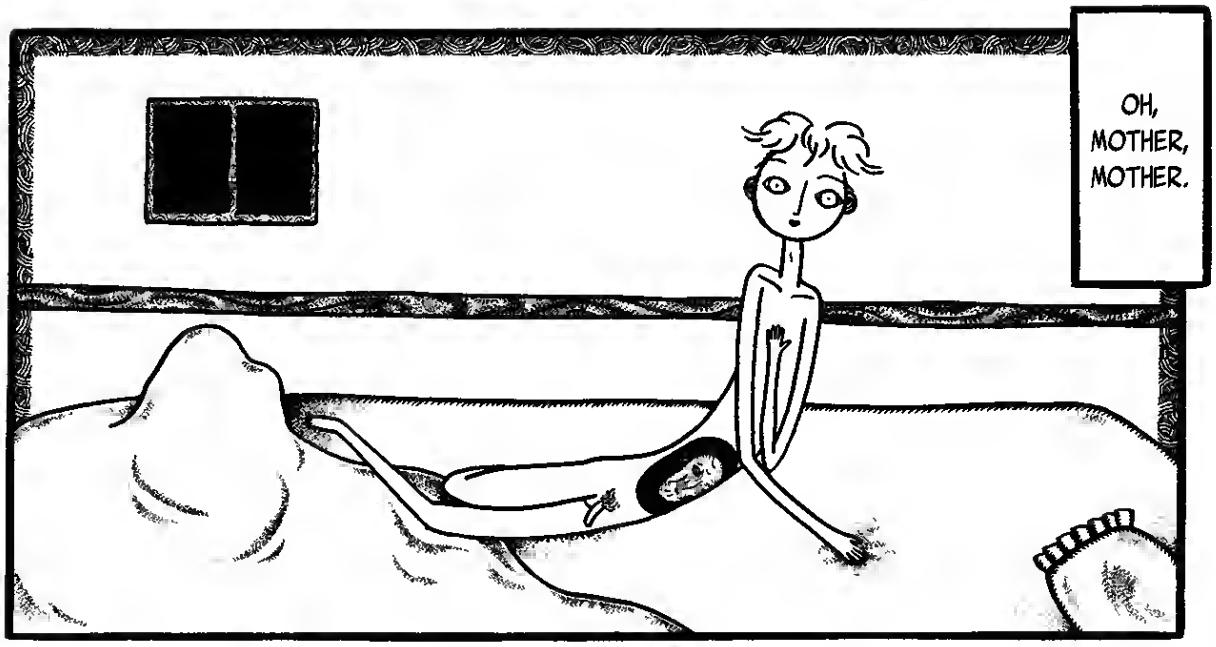

LONG
AGO,
LIKE I
PICTURED
HER IN MY
MIND.

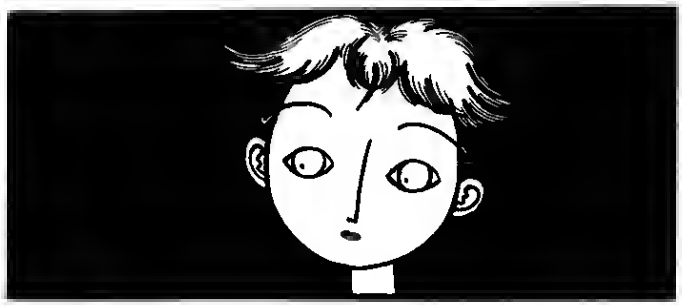

I'D NO-TICED
THAT I HADN'T SEEN HER RE-CENTLY.
AND THEN SHE
SHOW-ED UP ON ME HERE.
SHE SHOW-ED UP
HERE ON ME.
OH, MOTHER, PLEASE DON'T GET FAT.
PLEASE DON'T GET SO UGLY.

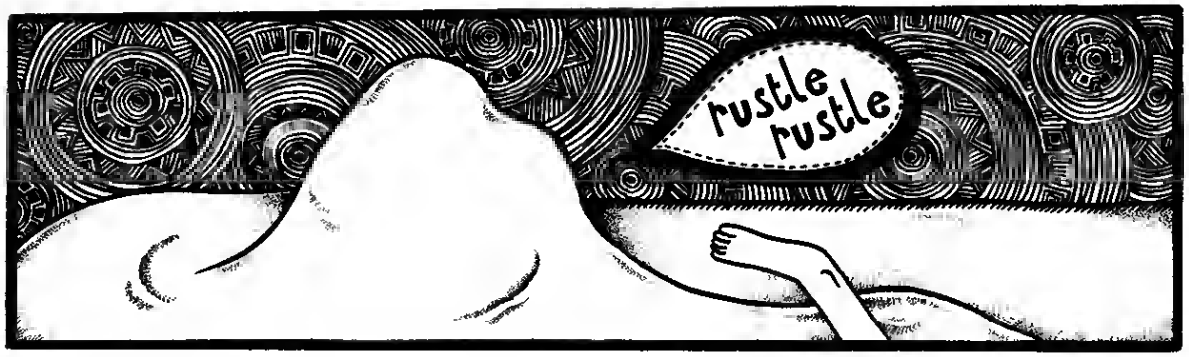

OH, IT MOVED.
IT'S A BOY.

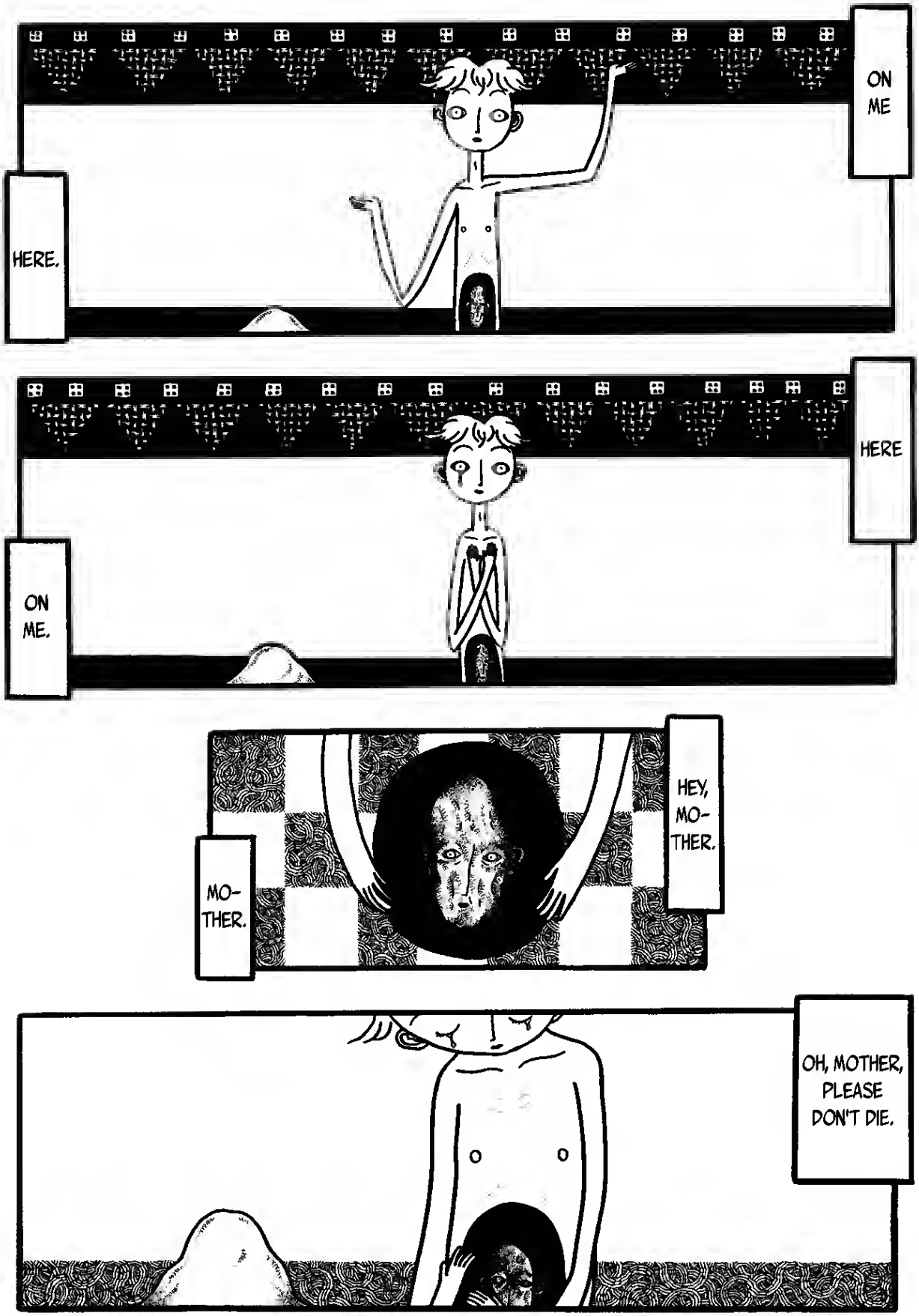
THAT MORN-ING,
I OPENED MY EYES.

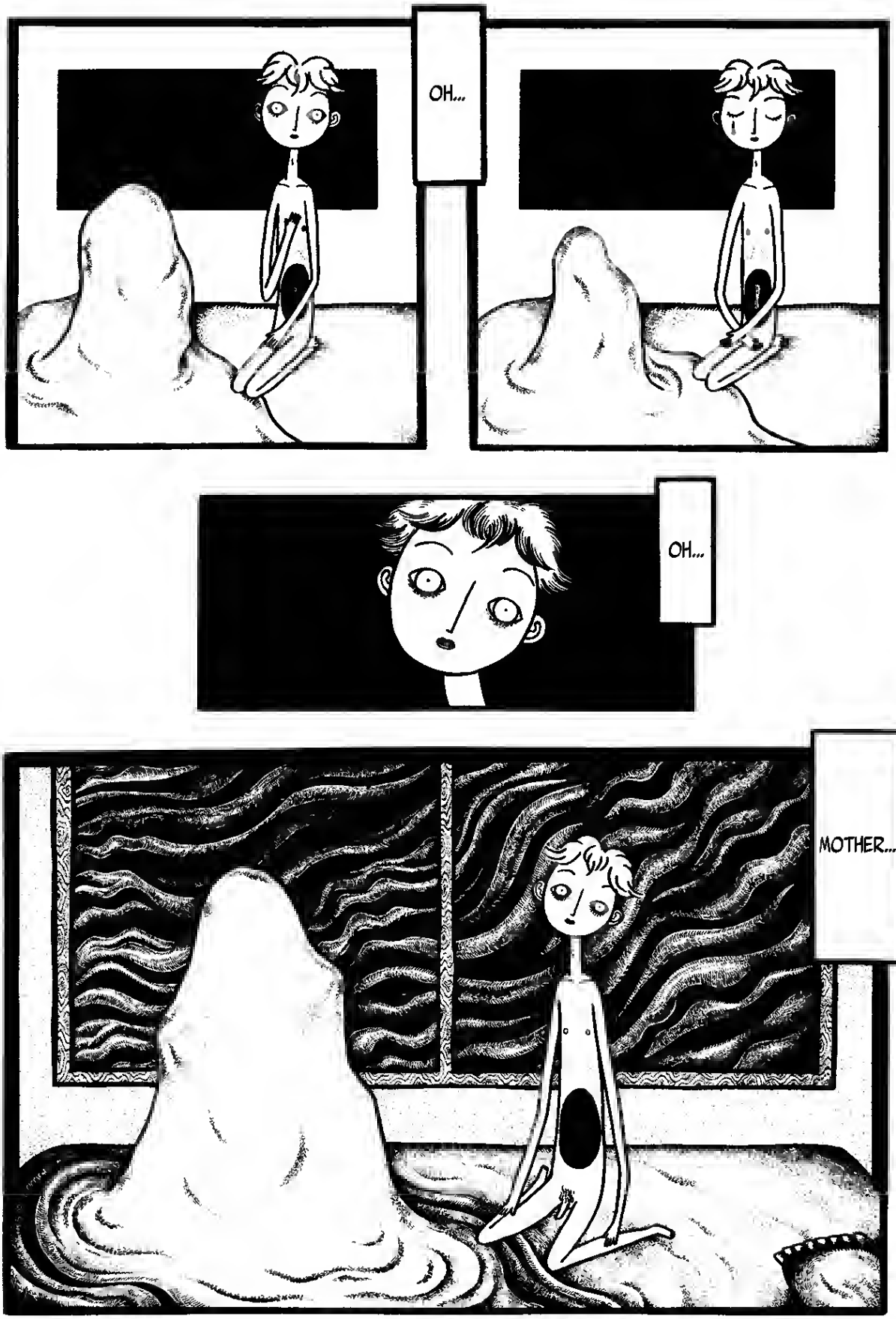

MO-
THER.


OH,
MOTHER,
MOTHER.

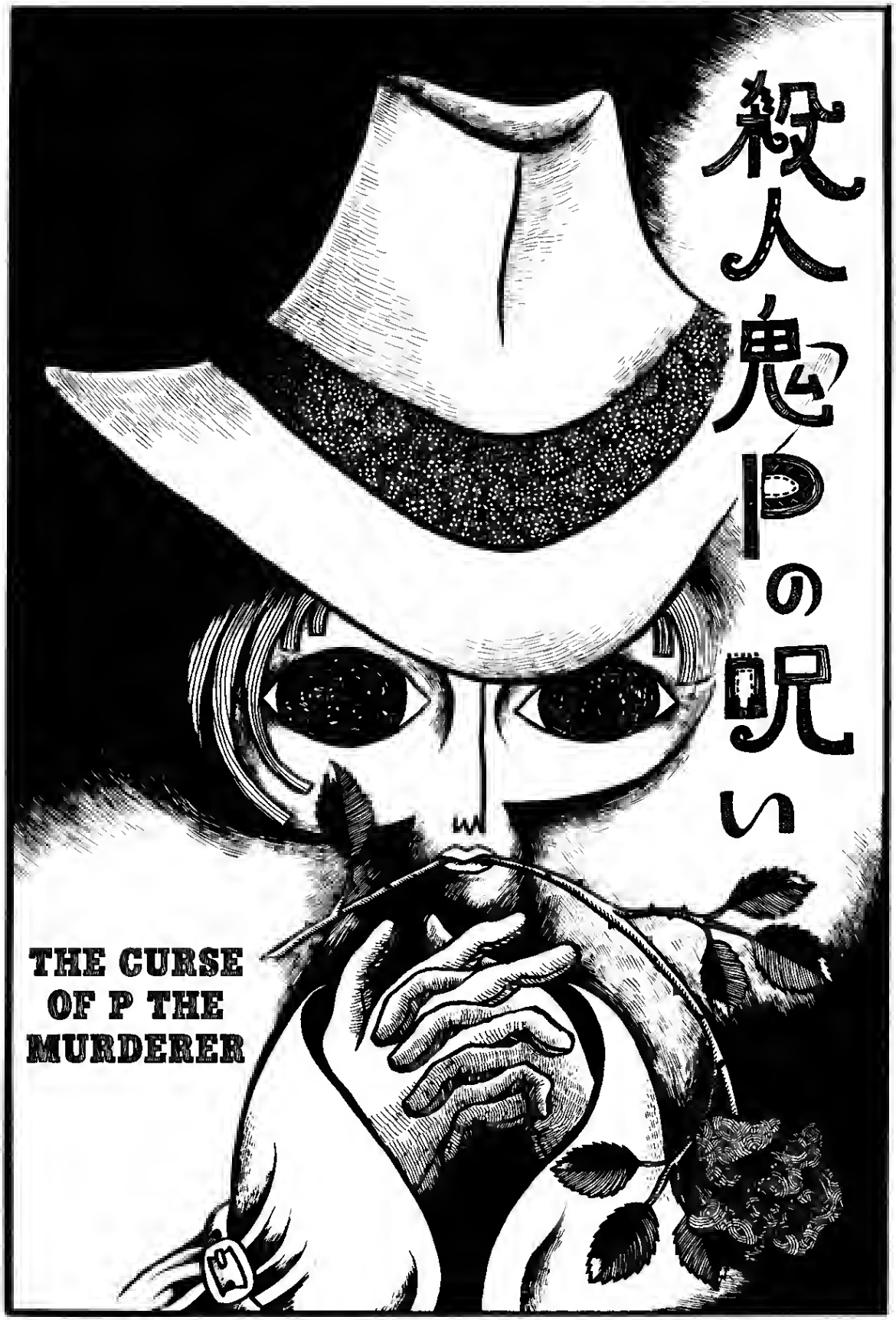


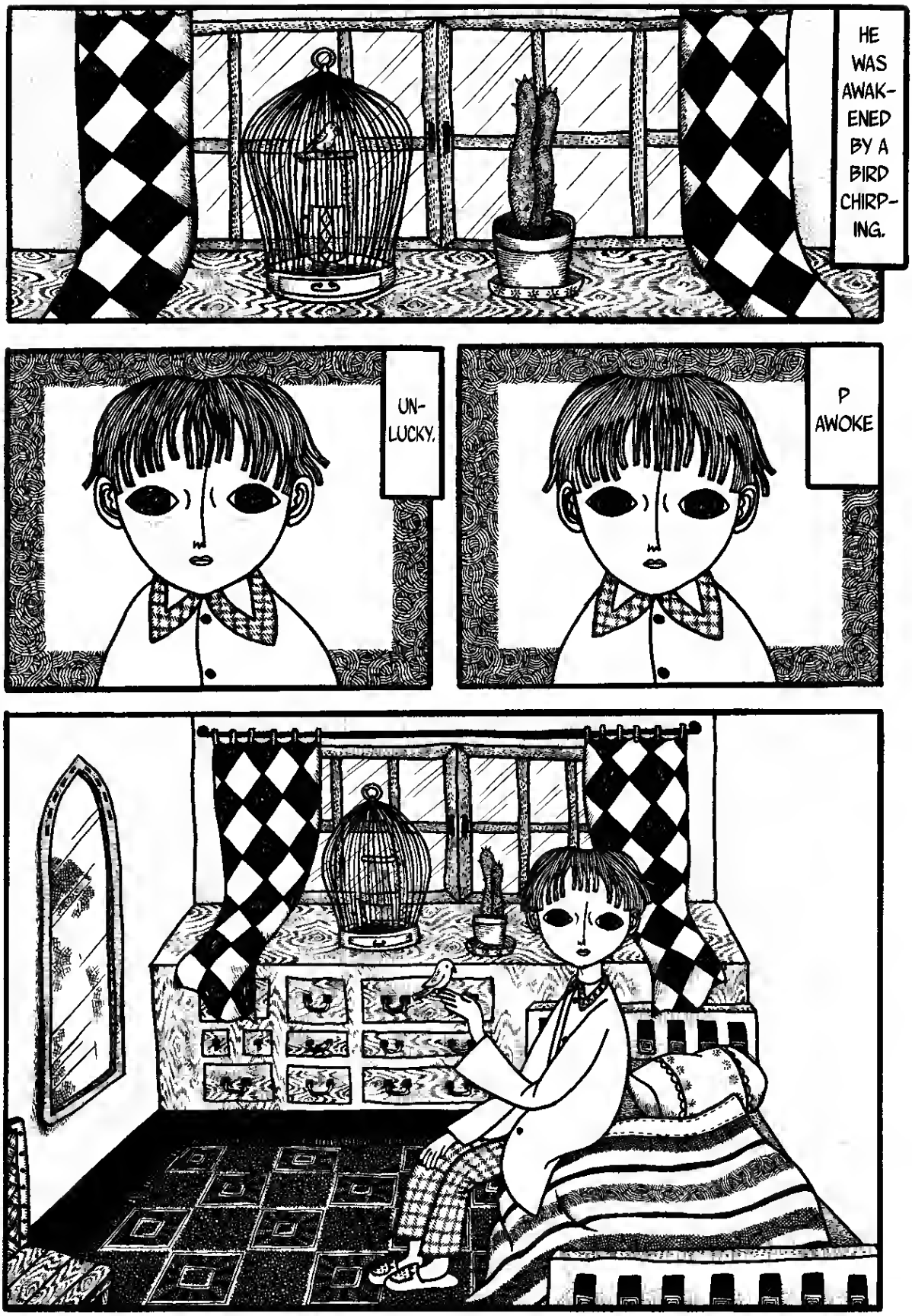

rustle
rustle

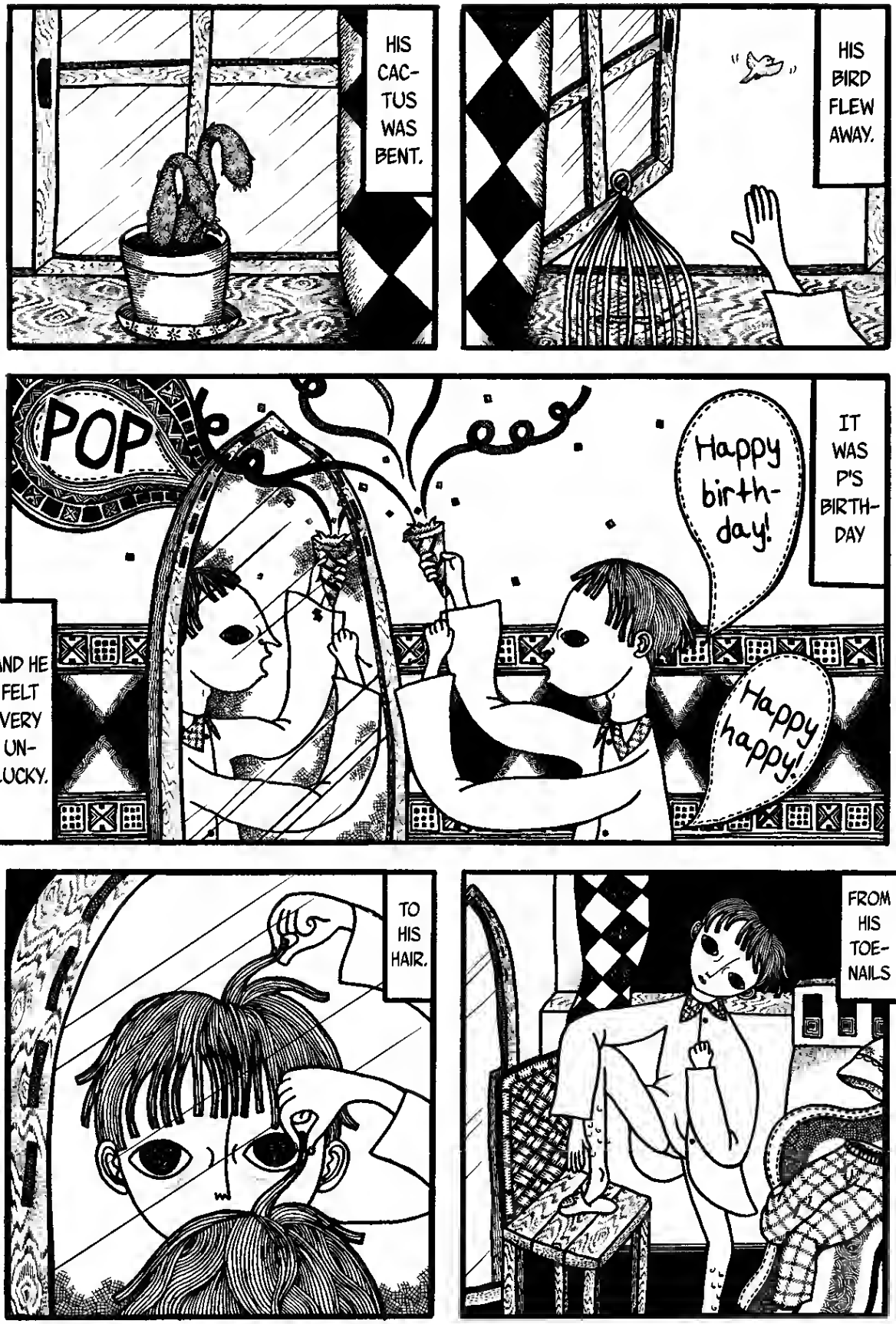

HERE.
ON ME
ON ME.
HERE
MO-THER.
HEY, MO-THER.
OH, MOTHER, PLEASE DON'T DIE.



The End

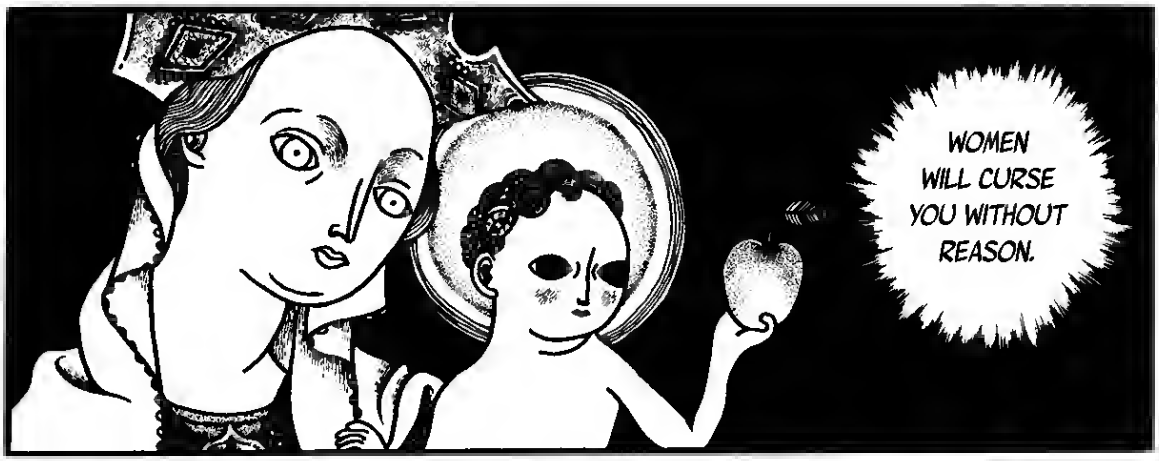

殺人鬼Pの呪い
THE CURSE OF P THE MURDERER

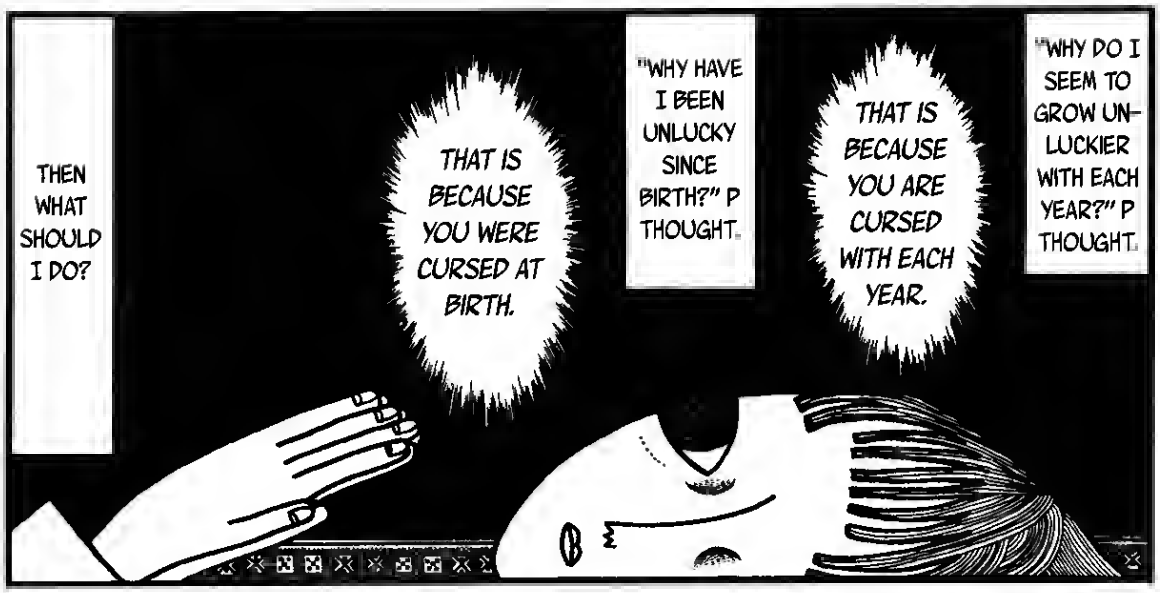

HE WAS AWAK- ENED BY A BIRD CHIRP- ING.
UN- LUCKY.
P AWOKE

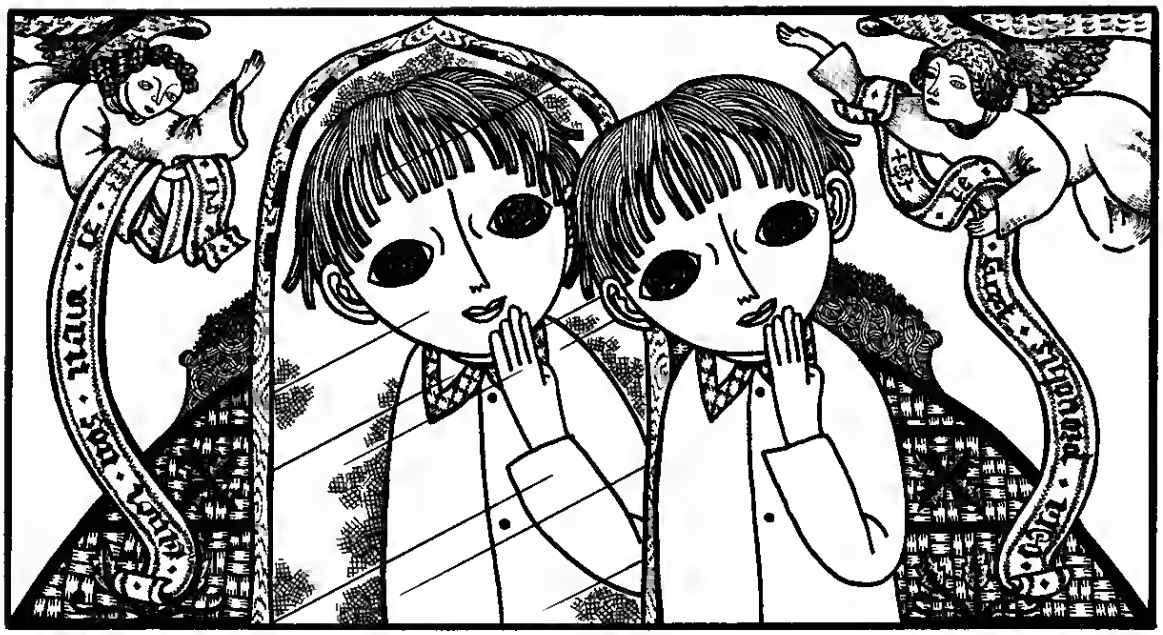

HIS CAC-TUS WAS BENT.
"
HIS BIRD FLEW AWAY.
POP
Happy birth-day!
IT WAS P'S BIRTH-DAY
AND HE FELT VERY UN-LUCKY.
Happy happy!
TO HIS HAIR.
FROM HIS TOE-NAILS

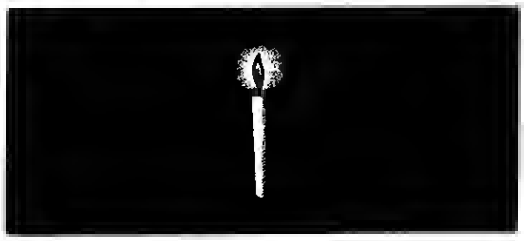
HE GREW UNLUCKIER WITH EACH YEAR.
HE FELT HE HAD BEEN UNLUCKY SINCE BIRTH.

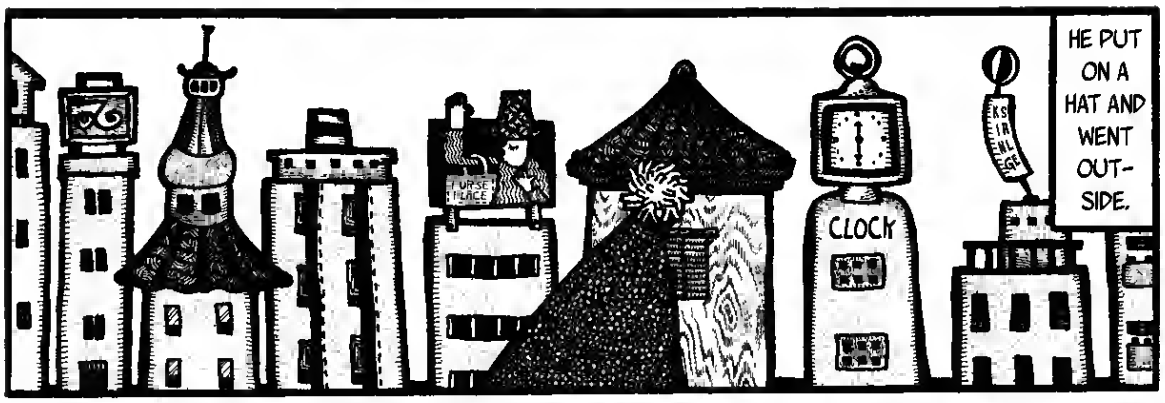
"WHY AM I SO UNLUCKY?" P THOUGHT.
AND THEN HE HEARD A VOICE.
IT IS BECAUSE YOU ARE CURSED.
SURPRISED, HE ASSUMED IT WAS GOD.
IT MADE HIM A LITTLE HAPPY.
"BUT WHO HAS CURSED ME?" P THOUGHT.
WHY, WOMEN, OF COURSE.
I DON'T REMEMBER DOING ANYTHING THAT WOULD MAKE WOMEN HATE ME, P THOUGHT.

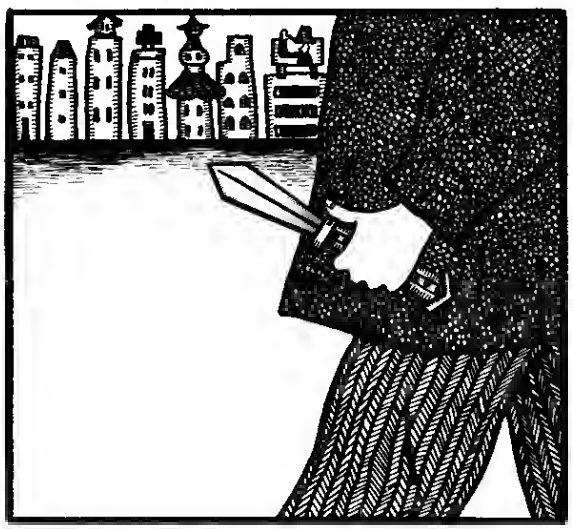

WOMEN WILL CURSE YOU WITHOUT REASON.

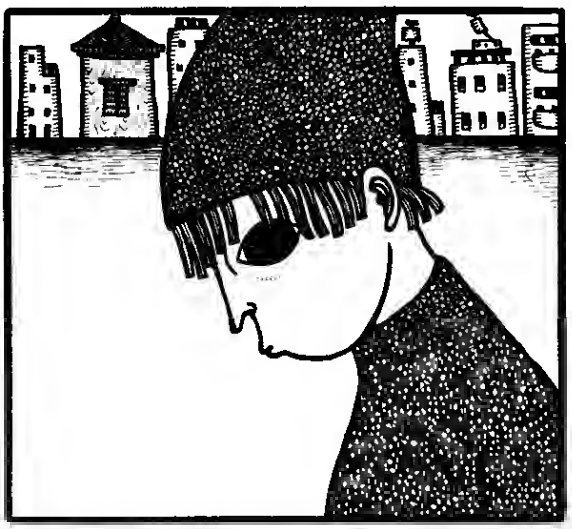

THEN WHAT SHOULD I DO?
THAT IS BECAUSE YOU WERE CURSED AT BIRTH.
"WHY HAVE I BEEN UNLUCKY SINCE BIRTH?" P THOUGHT.
THAT IS BECAUSE YOU ARE CURSED WITH EACH YEAR.
"WHY DO I SEEM TO GROW UNLUCKIER WITH EACH YEAR?" P THOUGHT.





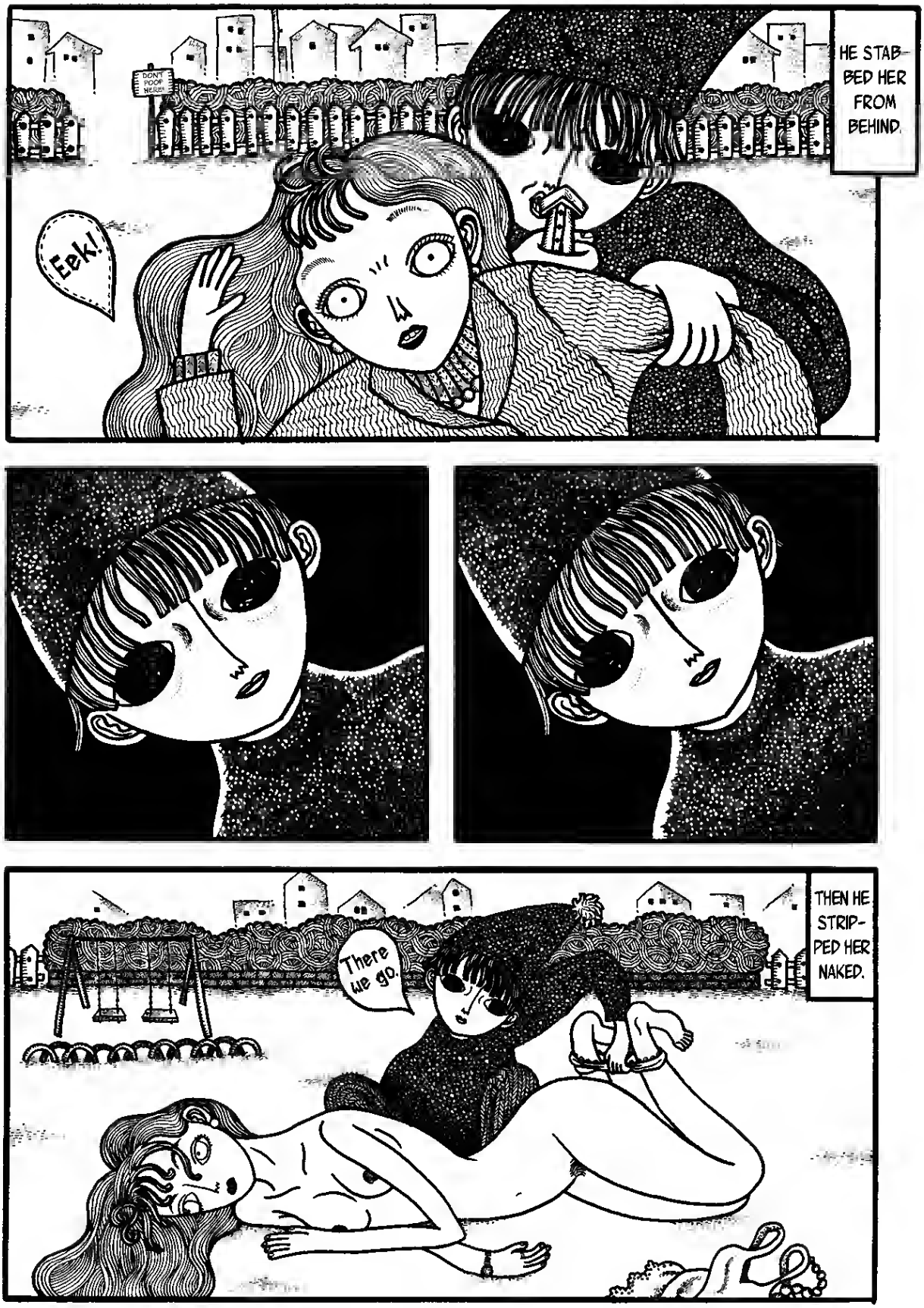

HE PUT ON A HAT AND WENT OUT-SIDE.
CLOCK

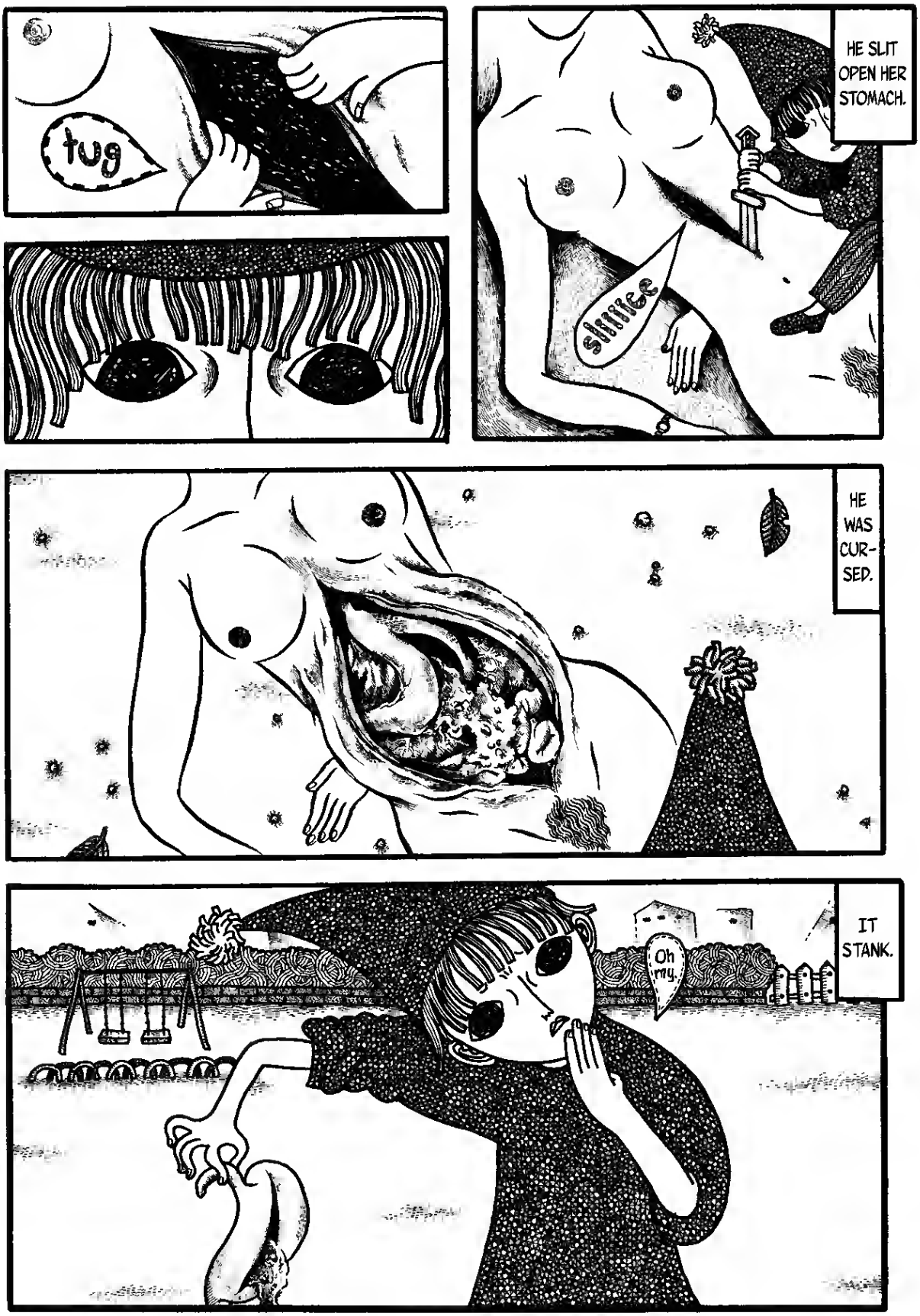


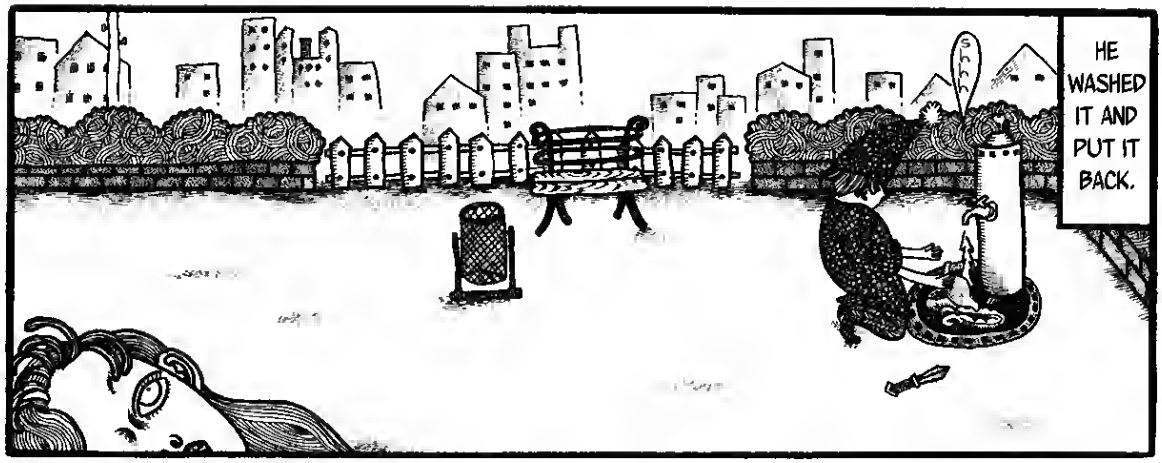


BOOKS

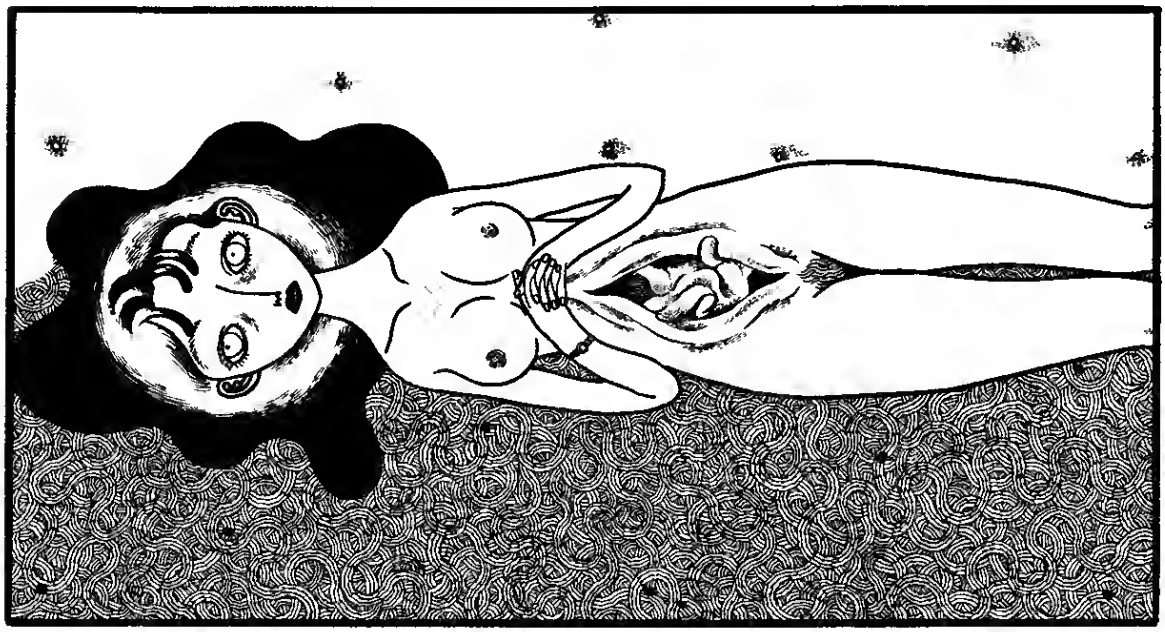
THAT'S HER, HE THOUGHT.
Shit
HE GRABBED HER ARM.
GRAB
HE FOLLOWED HER.


DON'T POOH HERE!
Eek!
HE STAB-BED HER FROM BEHIND.
There we go.
THEN HE STRIP-PED HER NAKED.

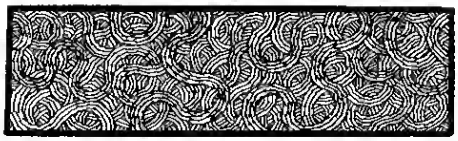

tug
HE SLIT OPEN HER STOMACH.
slice
HE WAS CUR-SED.
IT STANK.
Oh my.


HE WASHED IT AND PUT IT BACK.

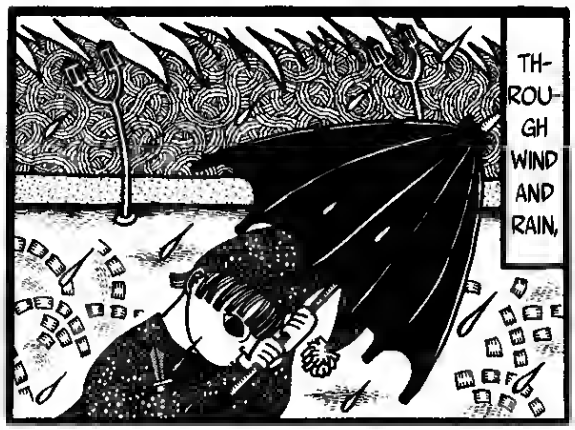
IT MADE HIM HAP-PY.

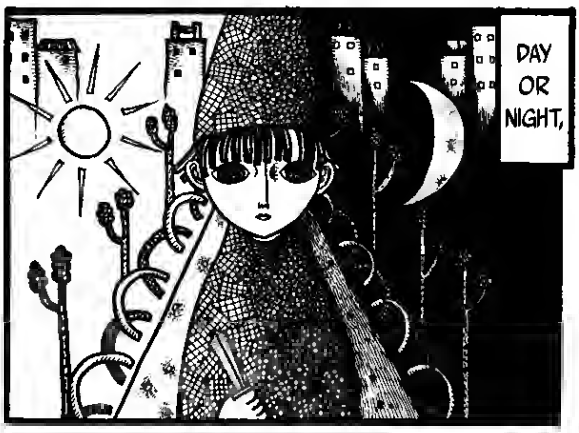


THAT NIGHT, P BOUGHT A CAKE ON HIS WAY HOME.

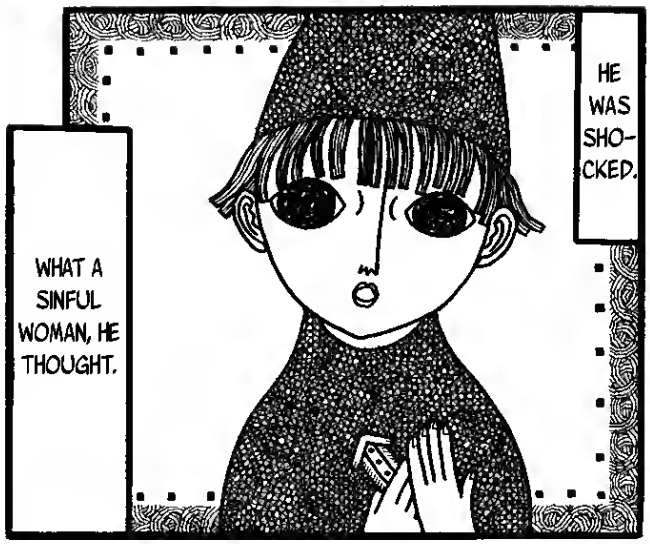


CHANCE MALL
FROM THEN ON, P SOUGHT OUT WOMEN WHENEVER HE HAD TIME.

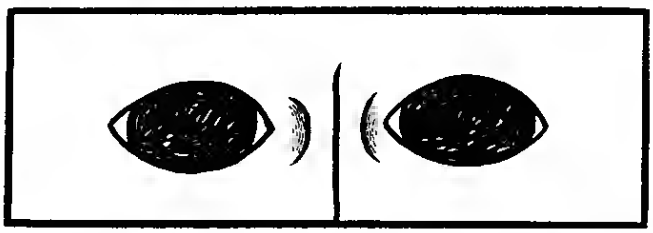

TH-ROU-GH WIND AND RAIN,

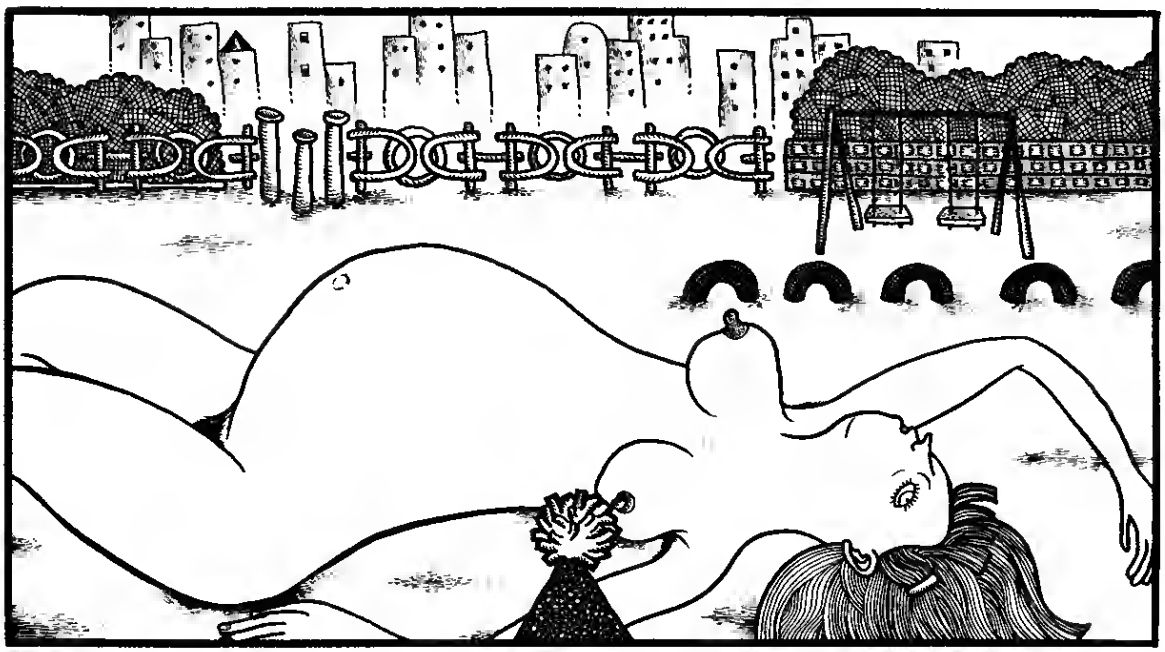

DAY OR NIGHT,

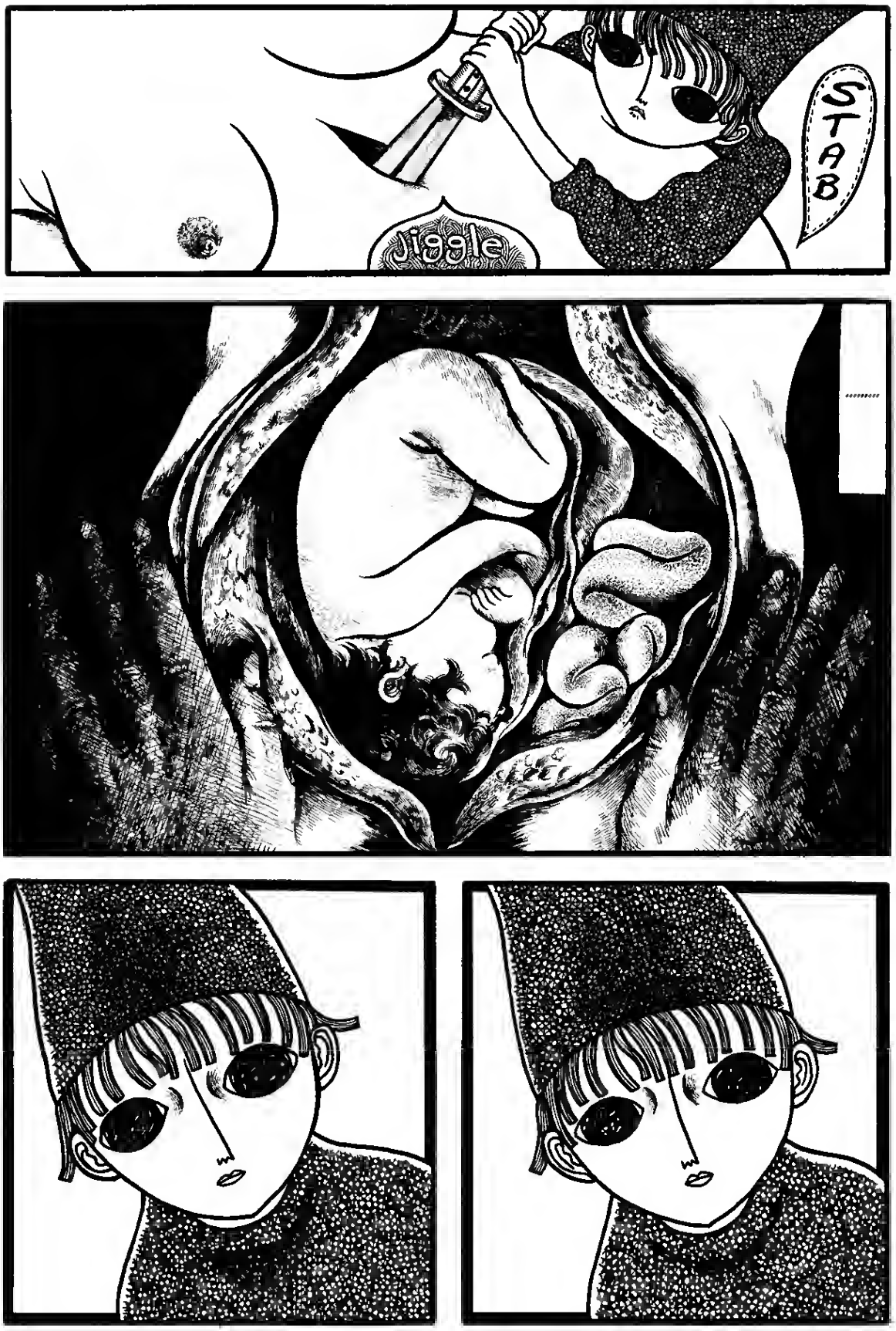
HE KILLED AS MANY WOMEN AS HE COULD.


WHAT A SINFUL WOMAN, HE THOUGHT.
HE WAS SHO-CKED.

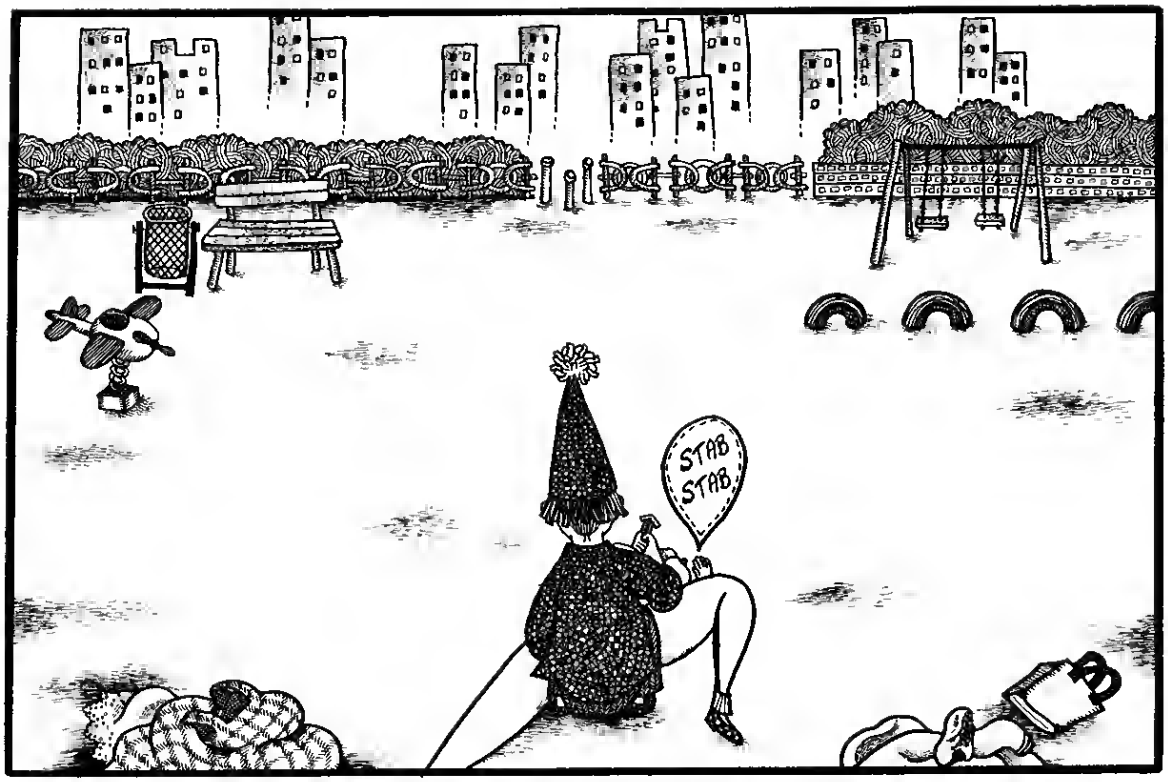
OH.
WAGON
Sale





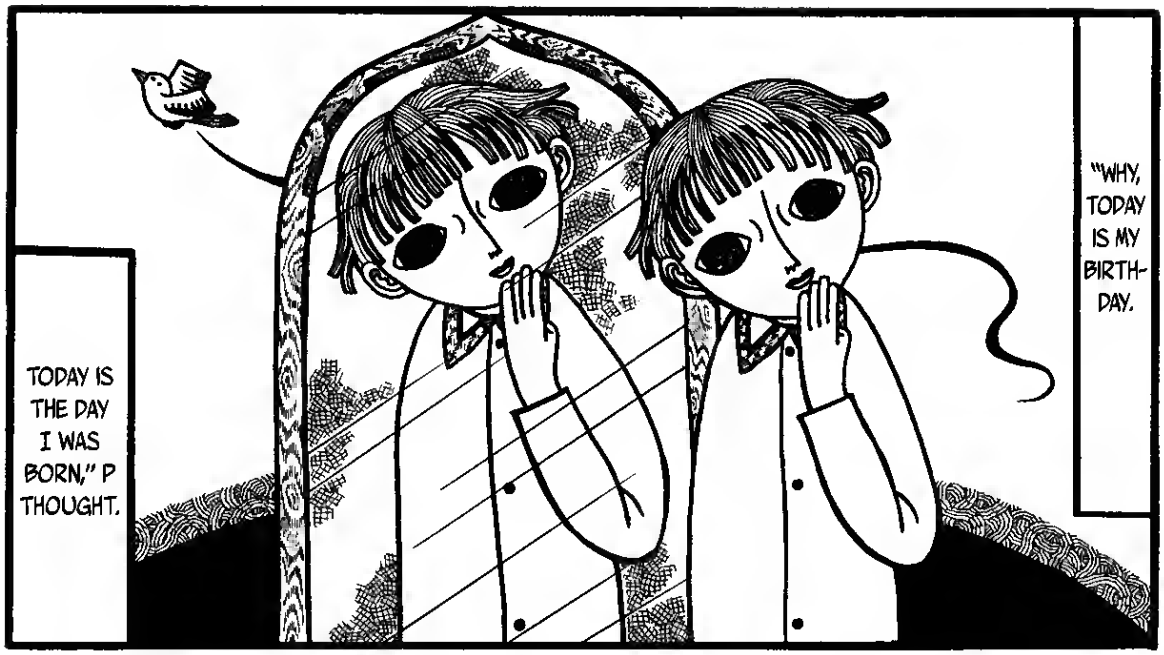

STAB
Jiggle
.....

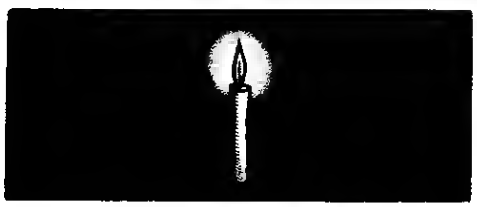
SKAB
SKAB
SKAB
SKAB
SKAB
SKAB
SKAB
SKAB
SKAB

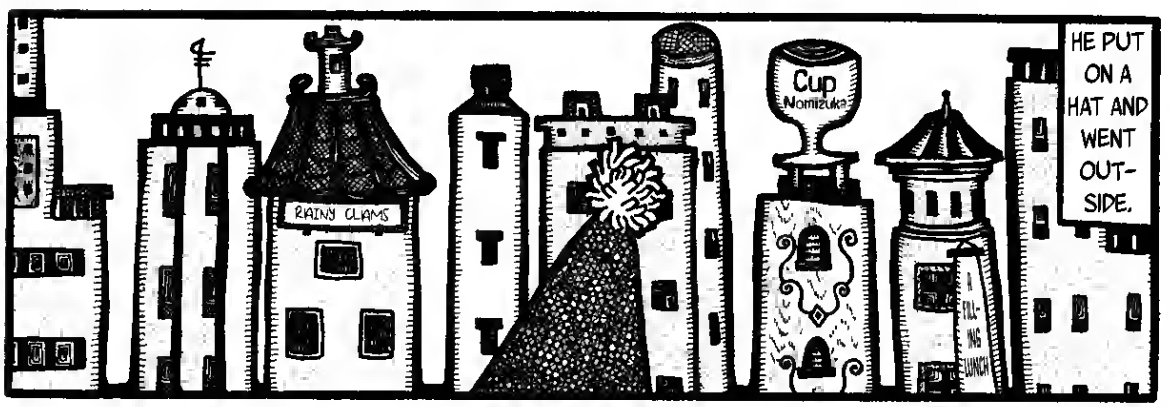

STAB
STAB.

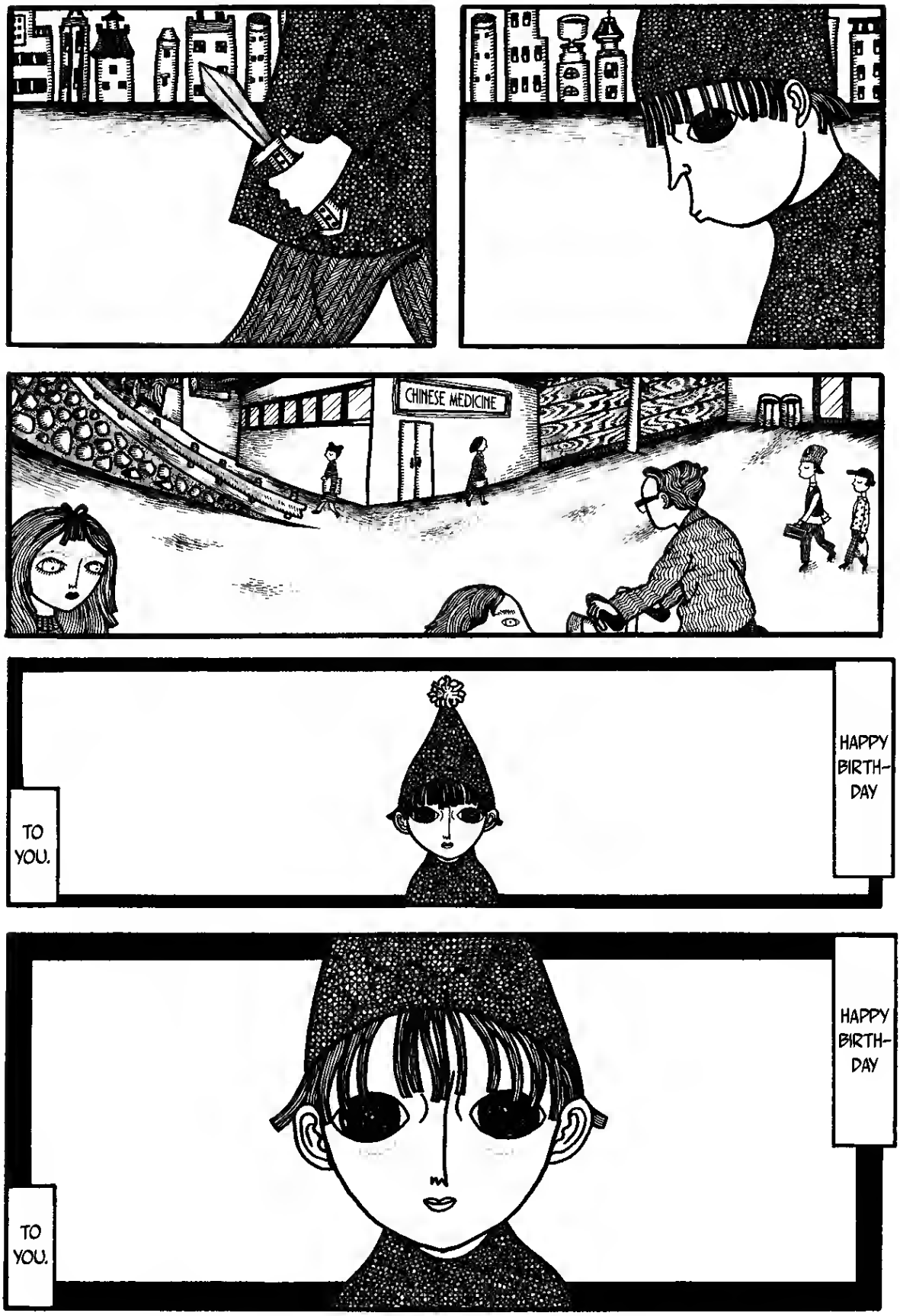
Waniwa
Pottery
P HAD NOW KILLED ONE WOMAN FOR EVERY YEAR HE HAD BEEN ALIVE.
A YEAR PAS-SED.

HE WAS VERY HAP-PY.
HE FELT HIS HAPPINESS WAS MUL-TIPLIED BY EACH YEAR HE'D BEEN ALIVE.
HE BOUGHT A CAKE ON HIS WAY HOME.
THE LIGHT OF THE CAN-DLES BRIGH-TENED THE ROOM.
WHOOSH
HE BLEW THE CAN-DLES OUT
.....
HE FELT UN-LUCKY AGAIN.
AND THE ROOM WAS DARK.


TODAY IS THE DAY I WAS BORN," P THOUGHT.
"WHY, TODAY IS MY BIRTH-DAY.

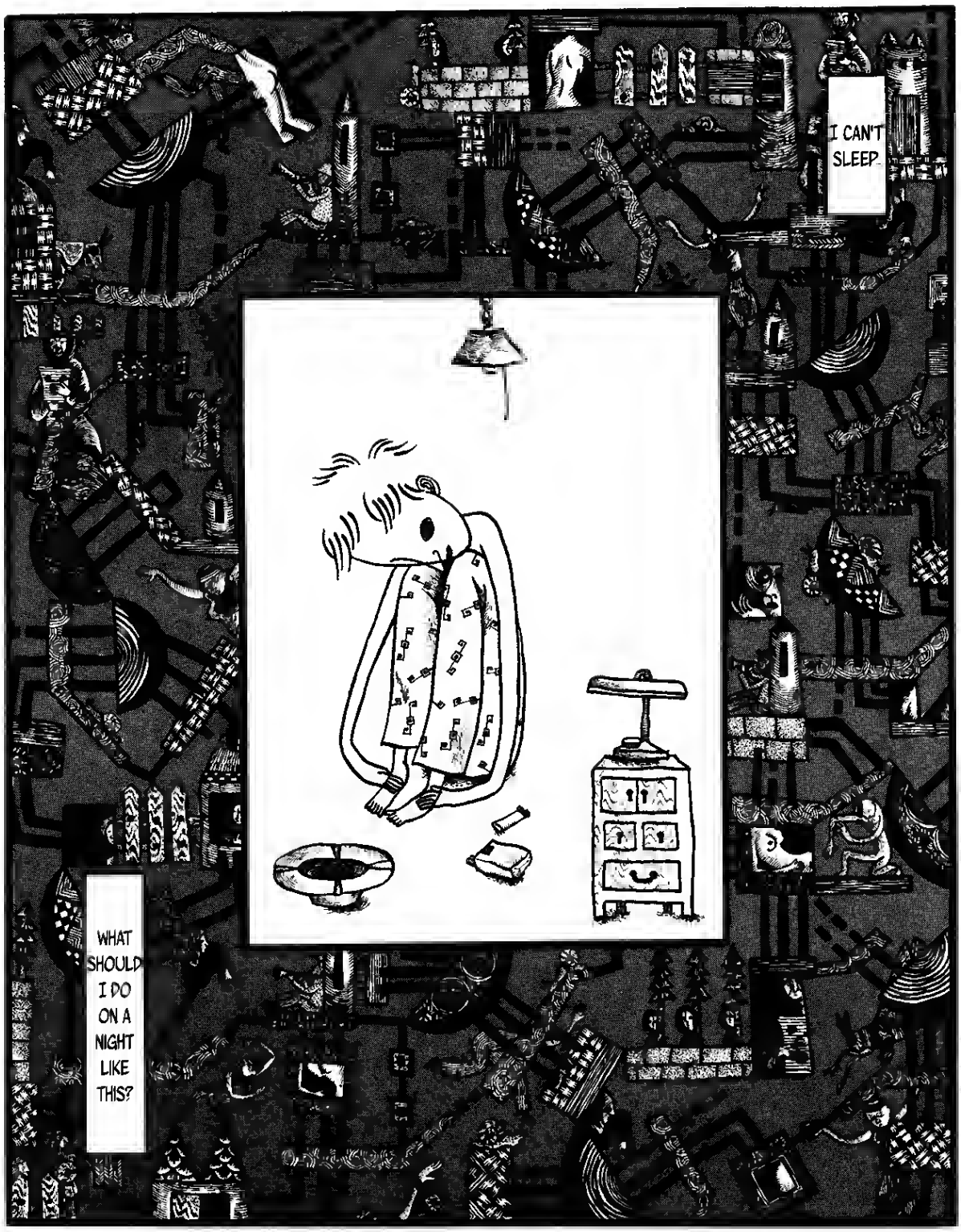


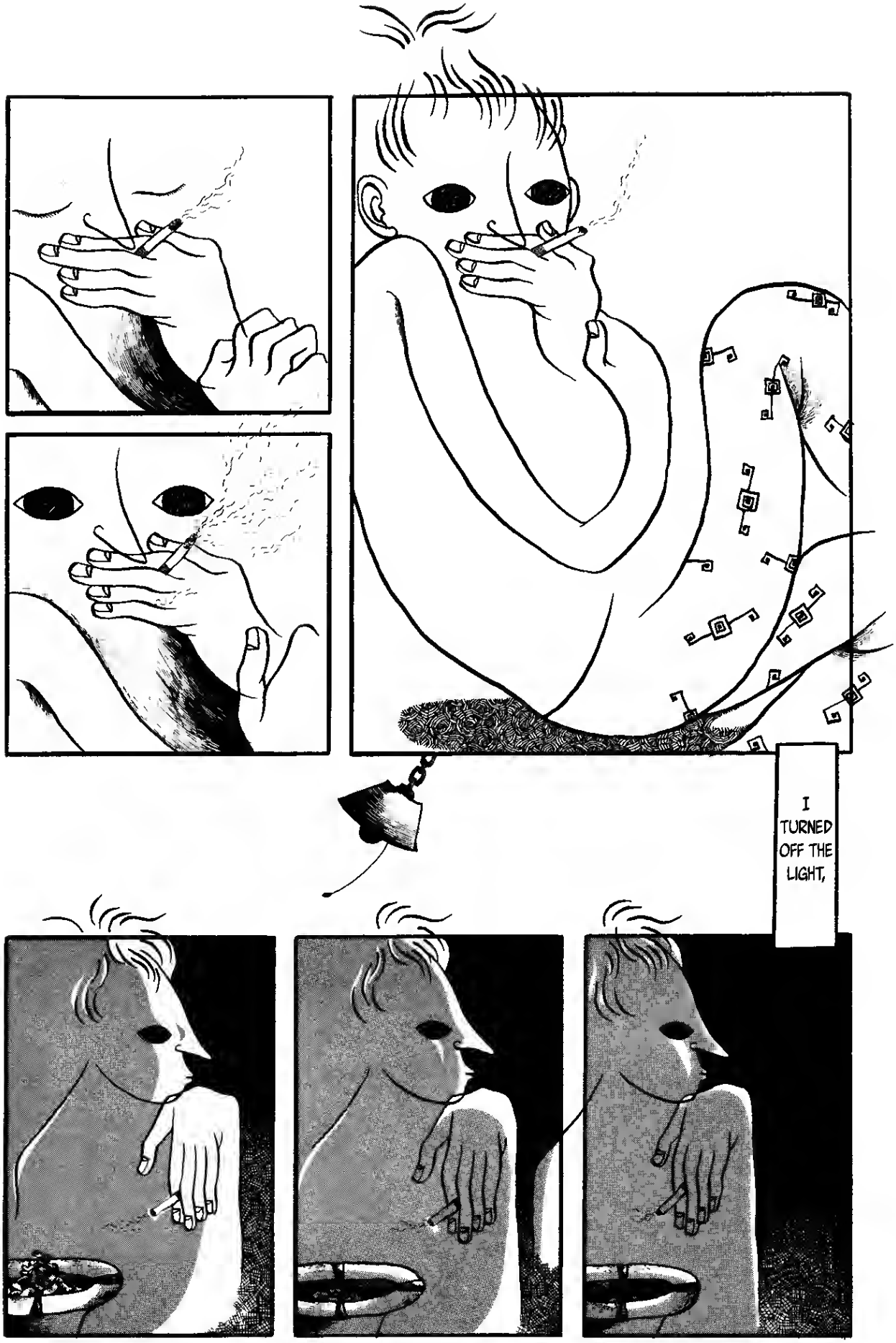

RAINY CLAMS
Cup Noodles
HE PUT ON A HAT AND WENT OUT-SIDE.


CHINESE MEDICINE
HAPPY BIRTH-DAY
TO YOU.
HAPPY BIRTH-DAY
TO YOU.

The End

Night

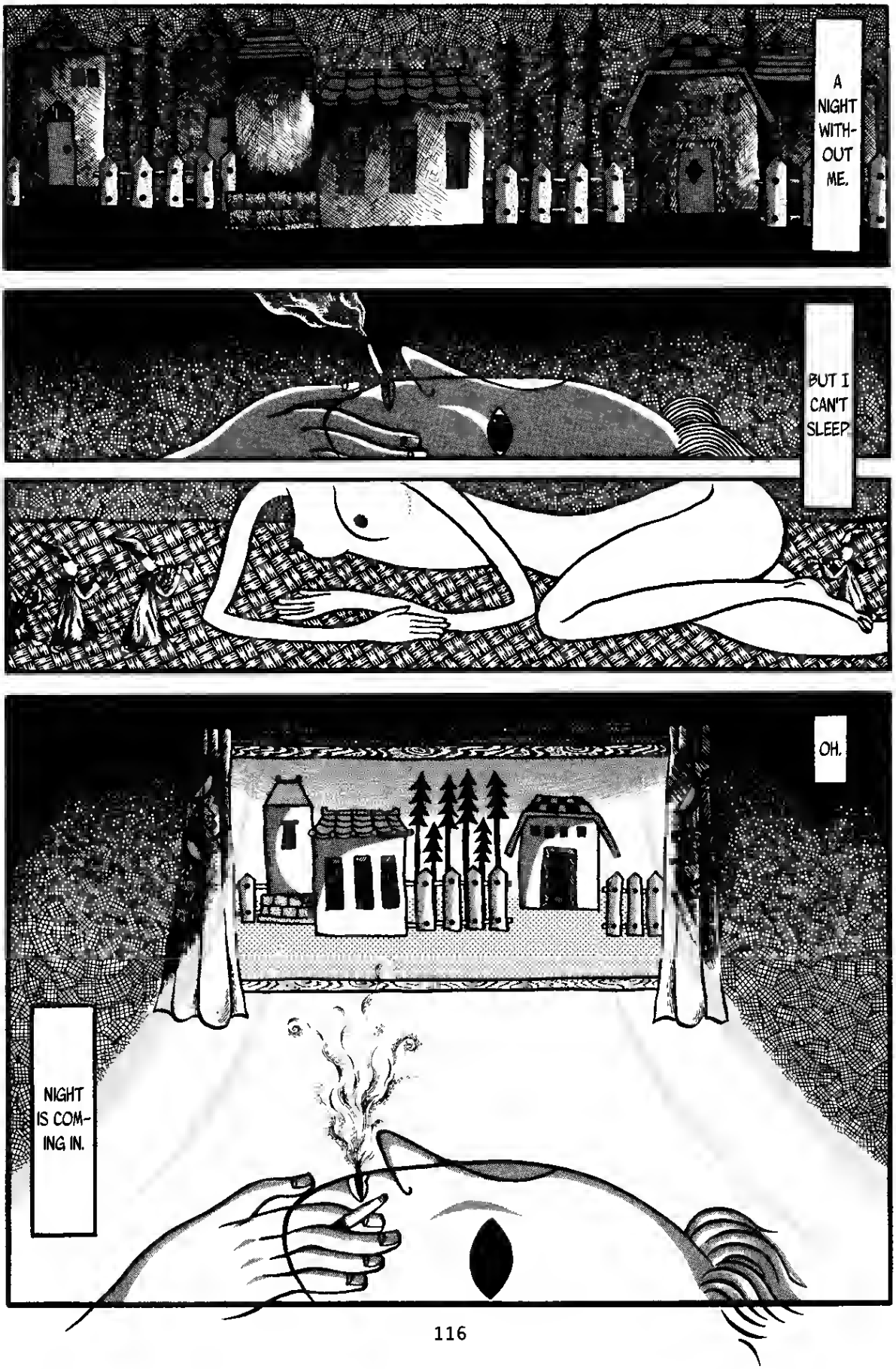


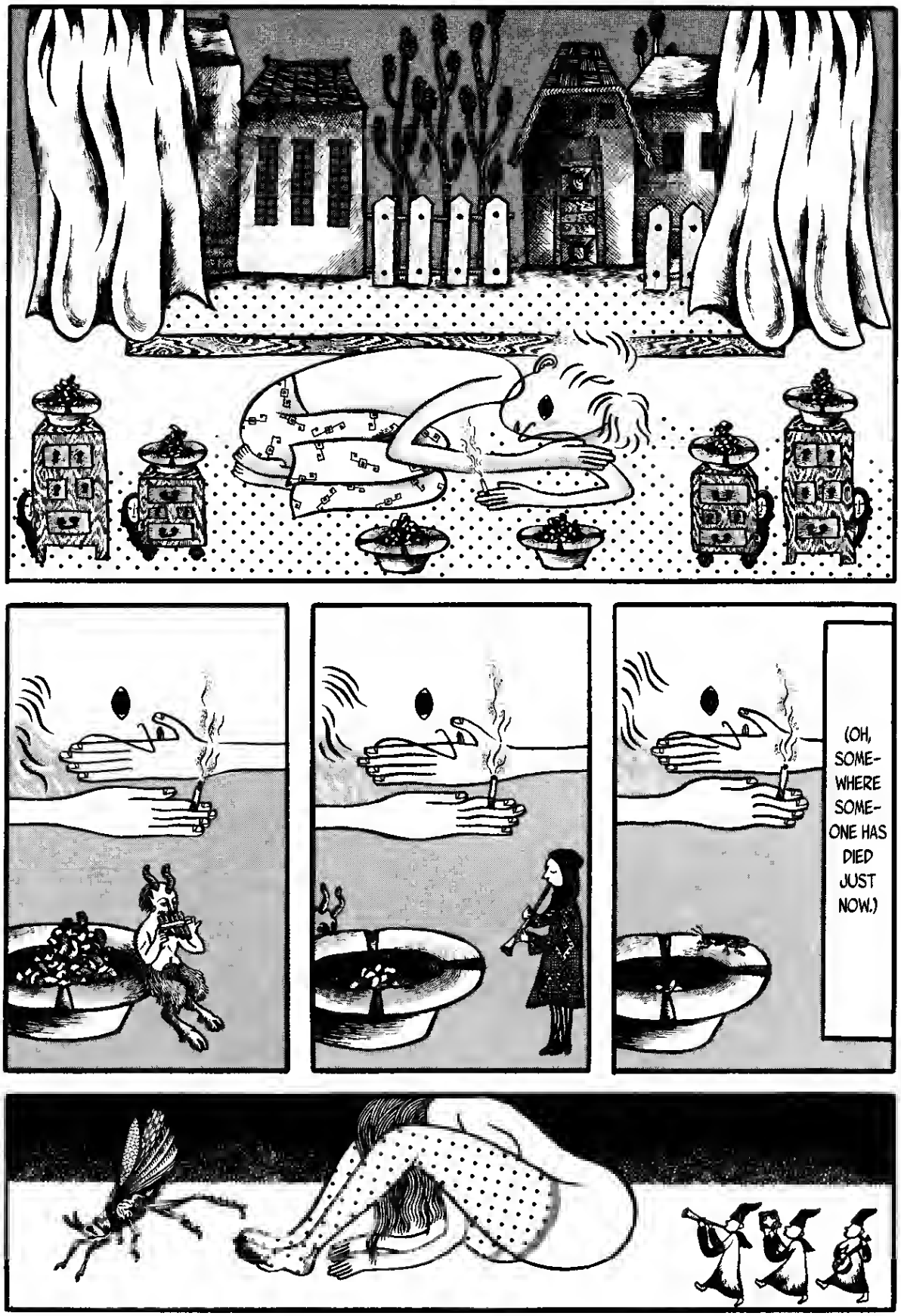

I TURNED OFF THE LIGHT,

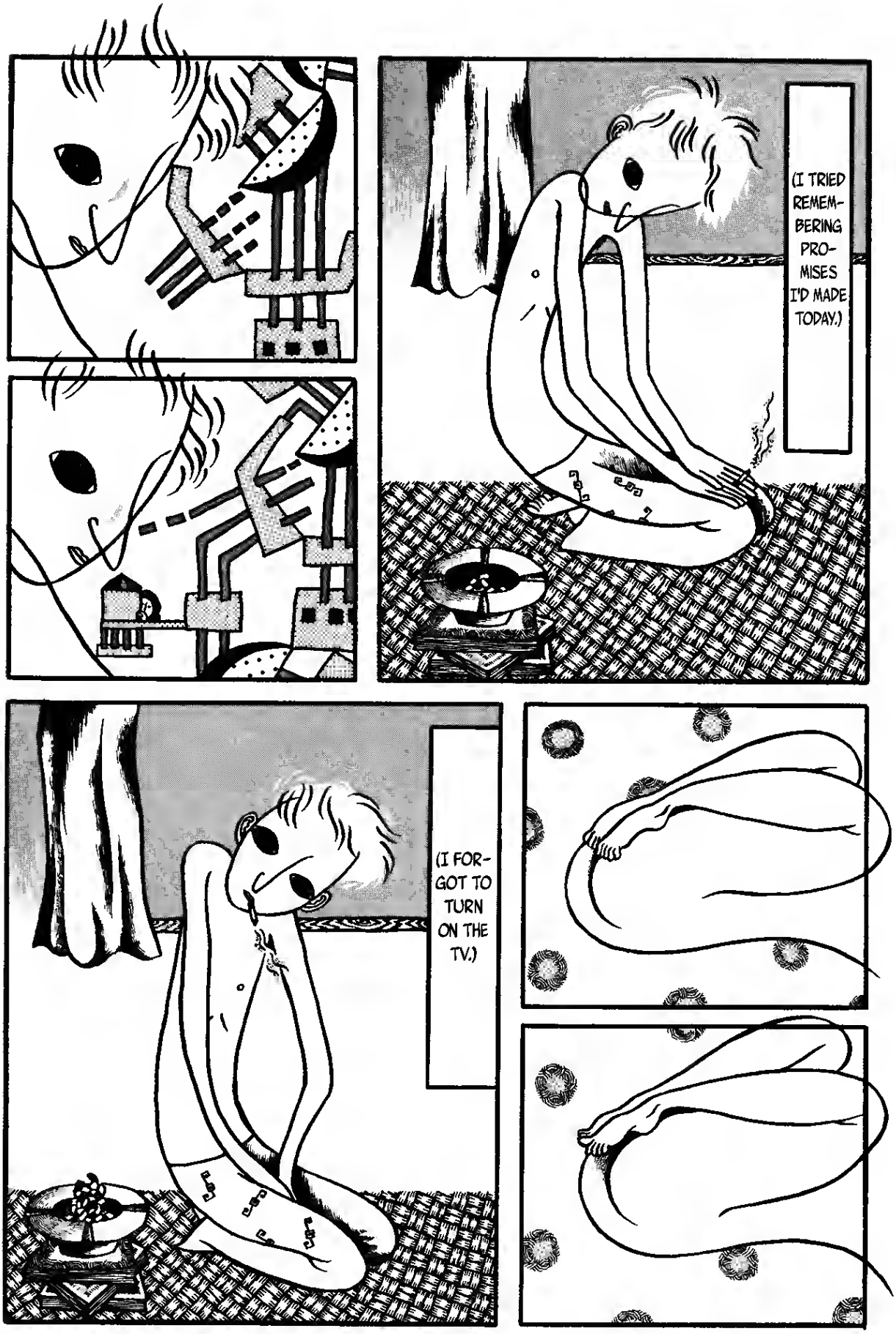
AND IT WAS STILL NIGHT-TIME OUT-SIDE MY WIN-DOW.

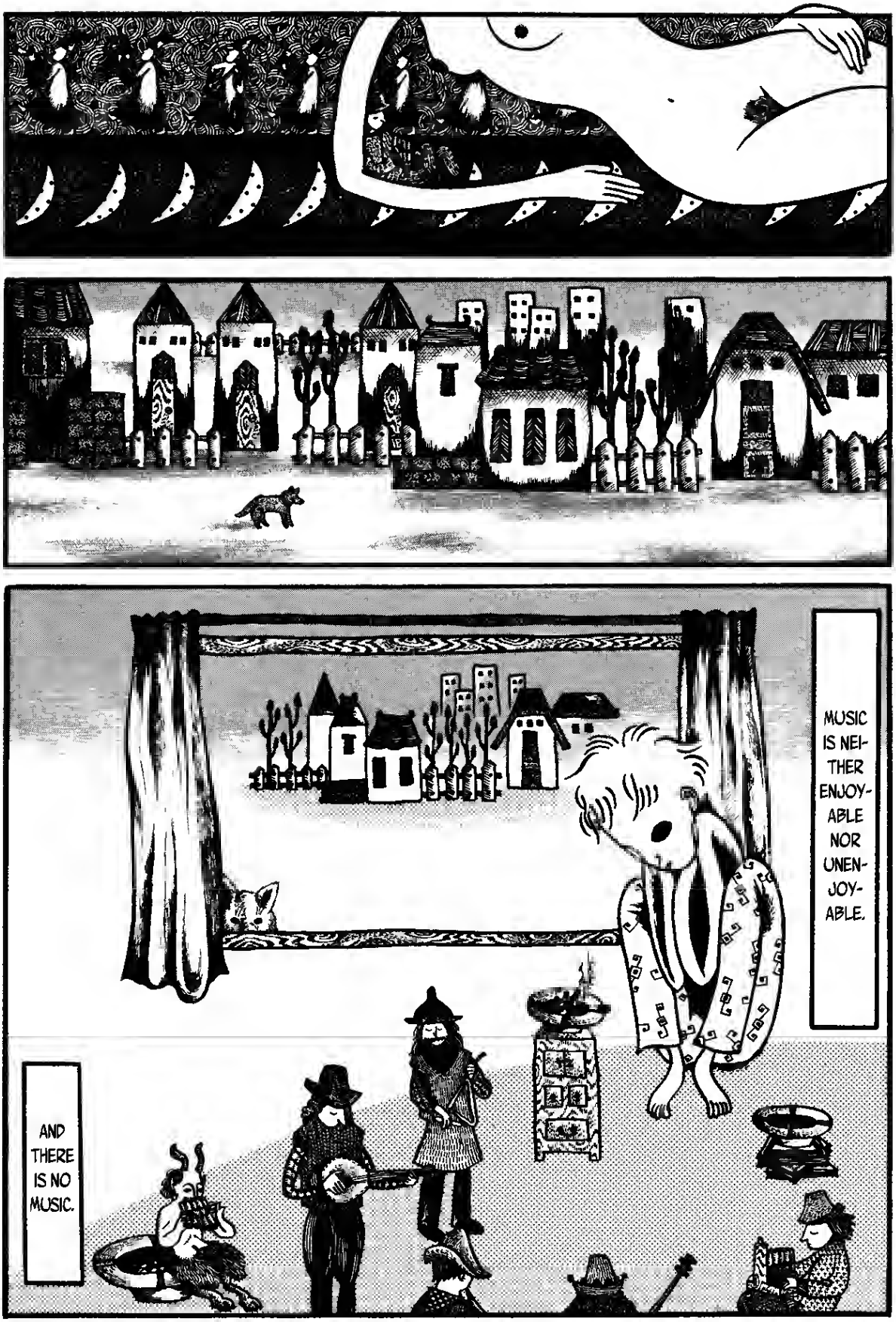
A NIGHT WHEN EVEN VERY BAD CHILD-REN WERE SLEEP-ING.

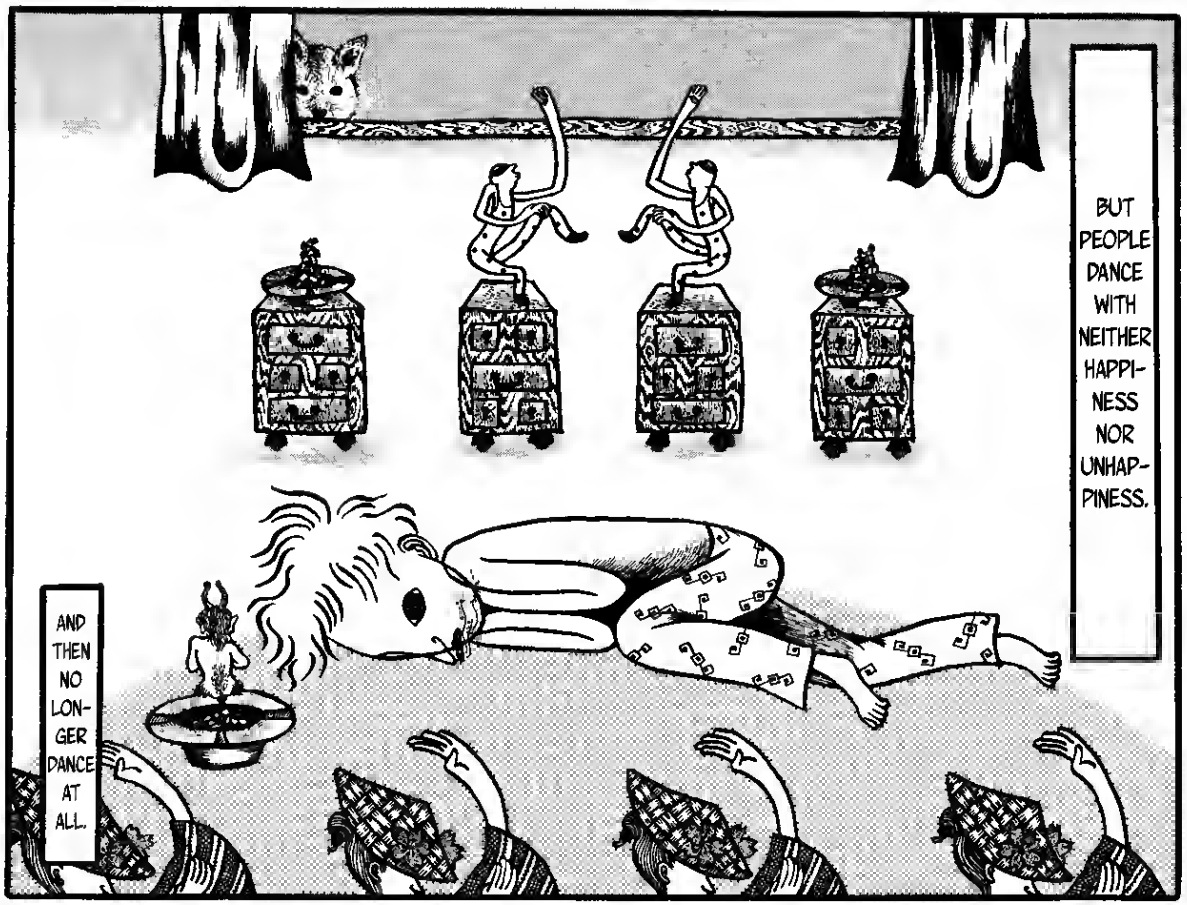
A NIGHT WHEN NO ONE WAS ABOUT.


A NIGHT WITH-OUT ME.
BUT I CAN'T SLEEP.
OH.
NIGHT IS COM-ING IN.

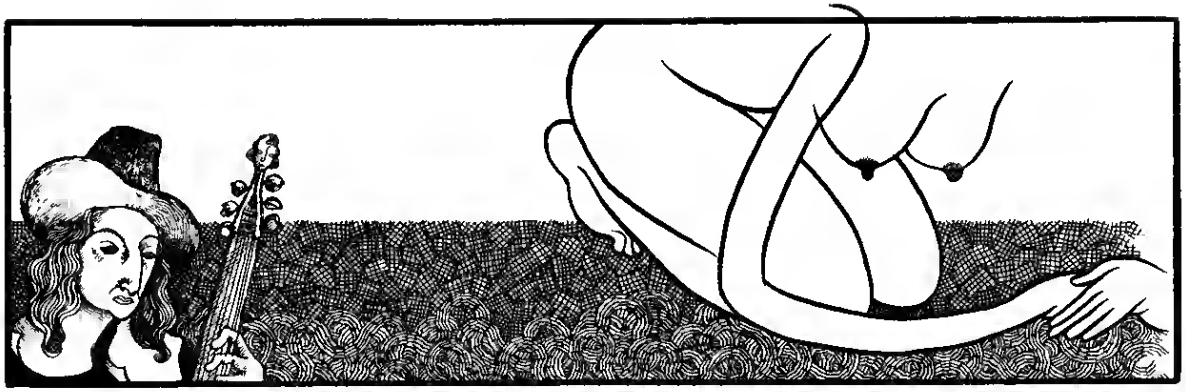

(OH, SOMEWHERE SOMEONE HAS DIED JUST NOW.)

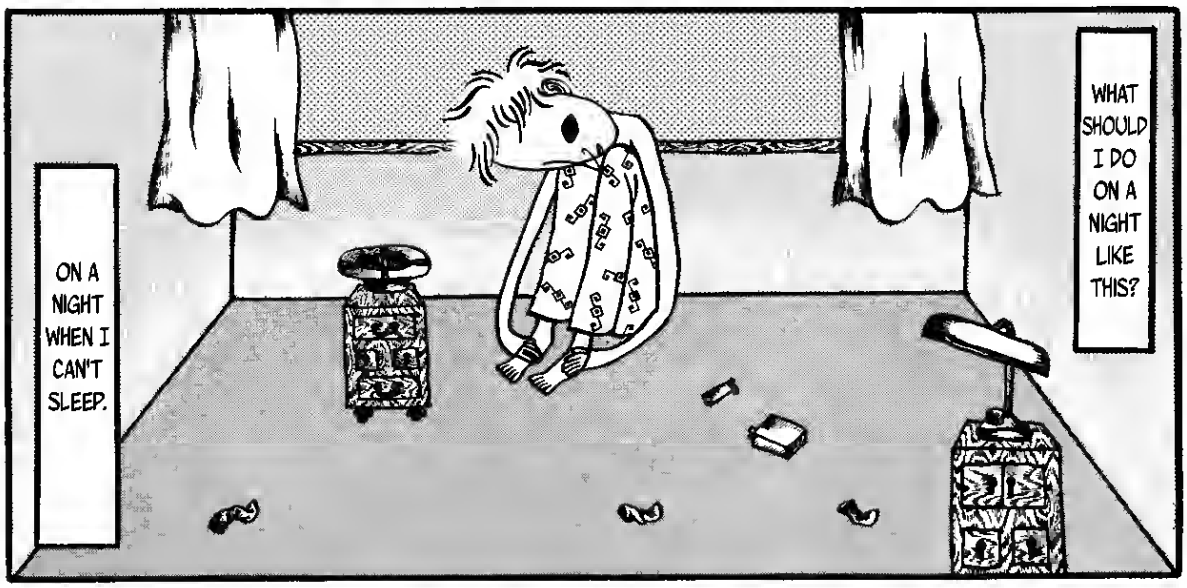

(I TRIED REMEMBERING PROMISES I'D MADE TODAY.)
(I FORGOT TO TURN ON THE TV.)

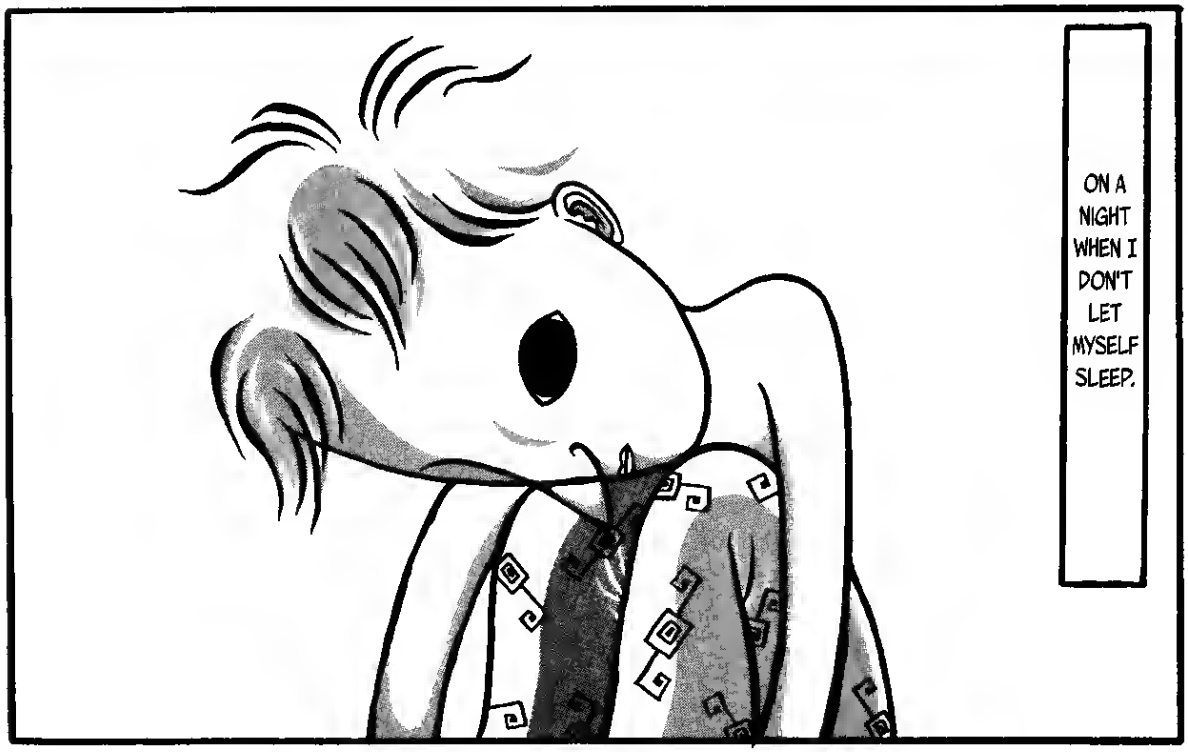

MUSIC IS NEITHER ENJOYABLE NOR UNENJOYABLE.
AND THERE IS NO MUSIC.

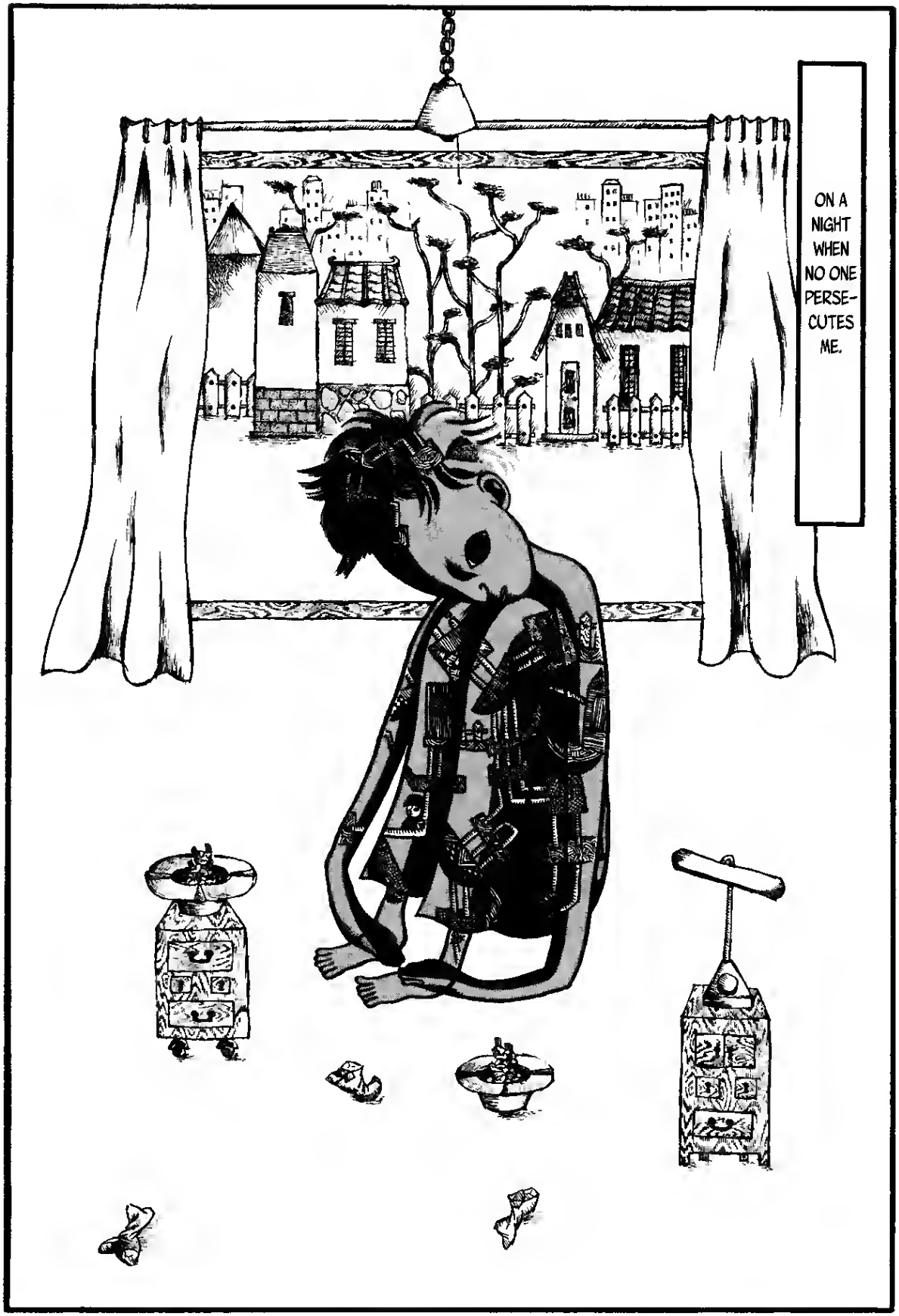

BUT PEOPLE DANCE WITH NEITHER HAPPI-NESS NOR UNHAP-PINESS.
AND THEN NO LON-GER DANCE AT ALL.

THEY ARE JUST THERE AND I CAN-NOT SLEEP.




ON A NIGHT WHEN I CAN'T SLEEP.
WHAT SHOULD I DO ON A NIGHT LIKE THIS?

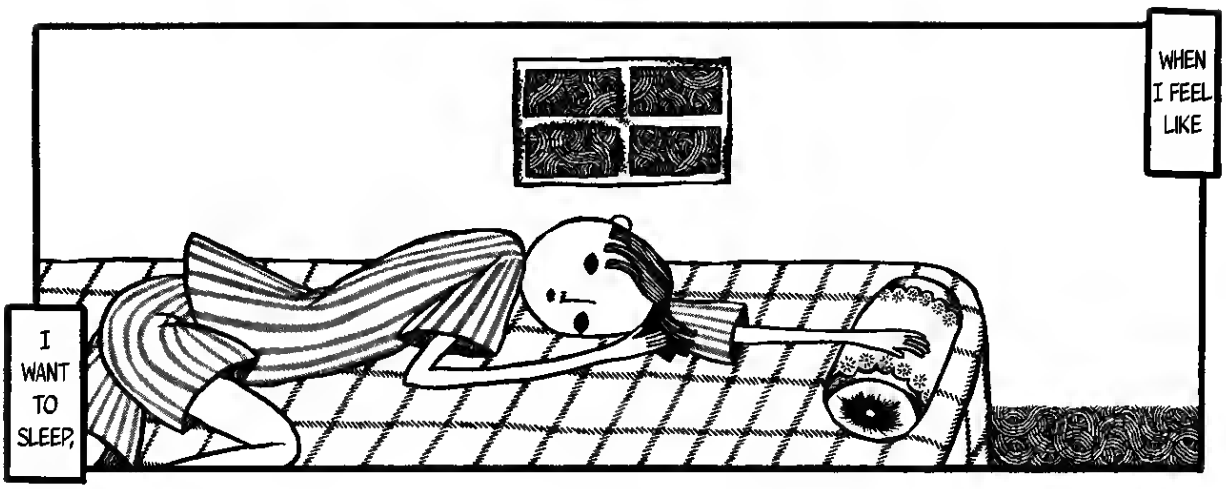

ON A NIGHT WHEN I DON'T LET MYSELF SLEEP.

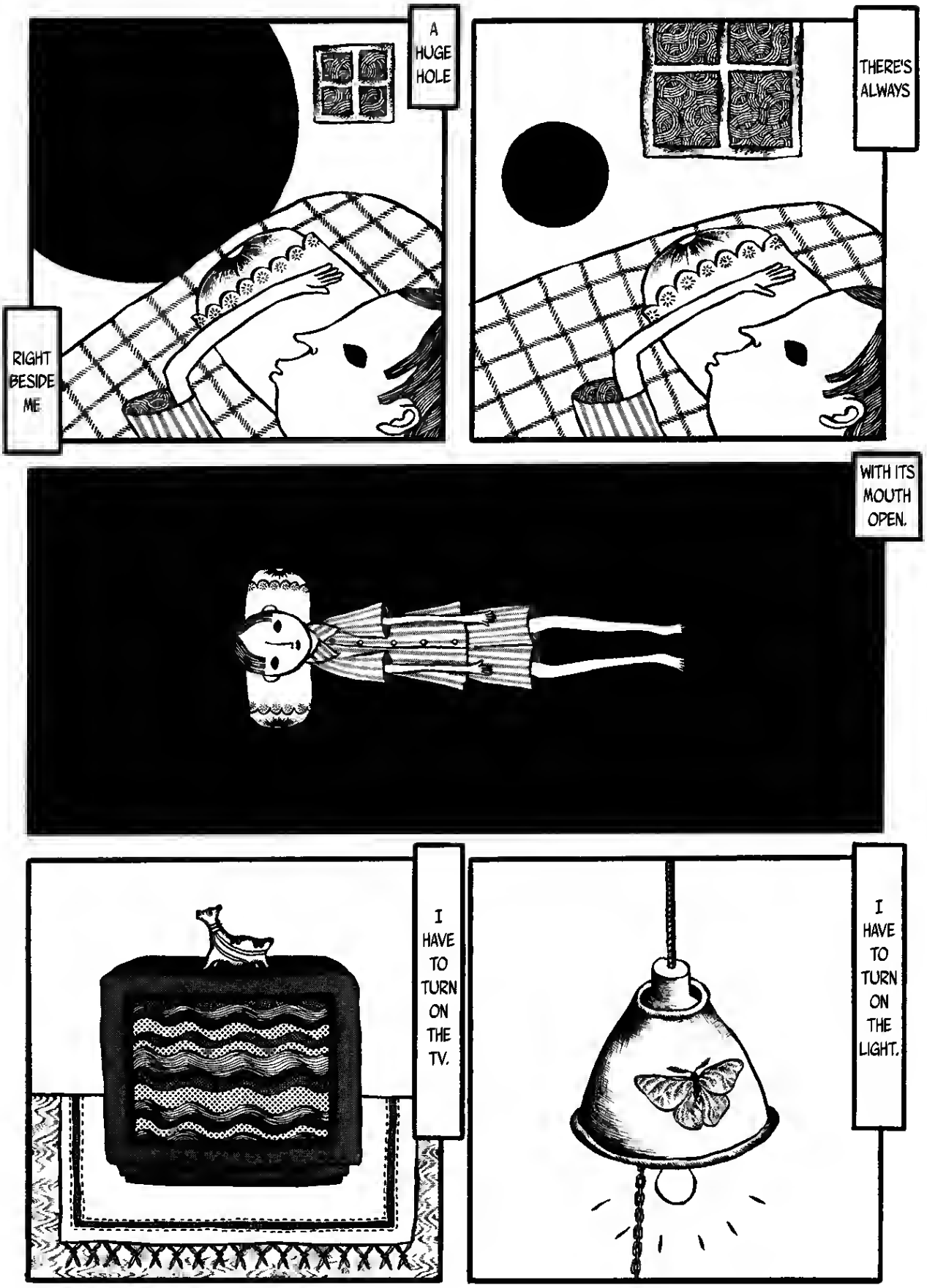


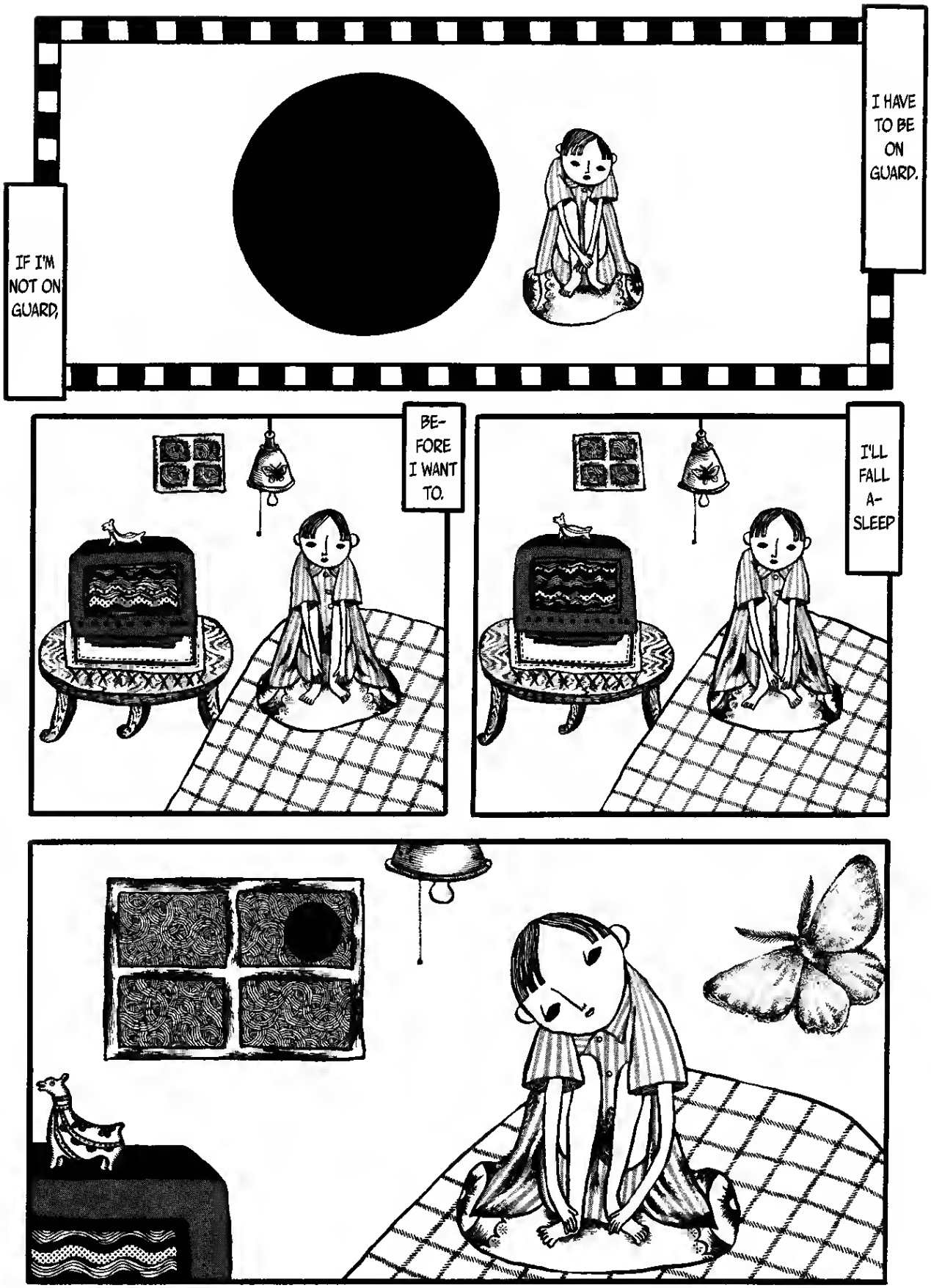
The End

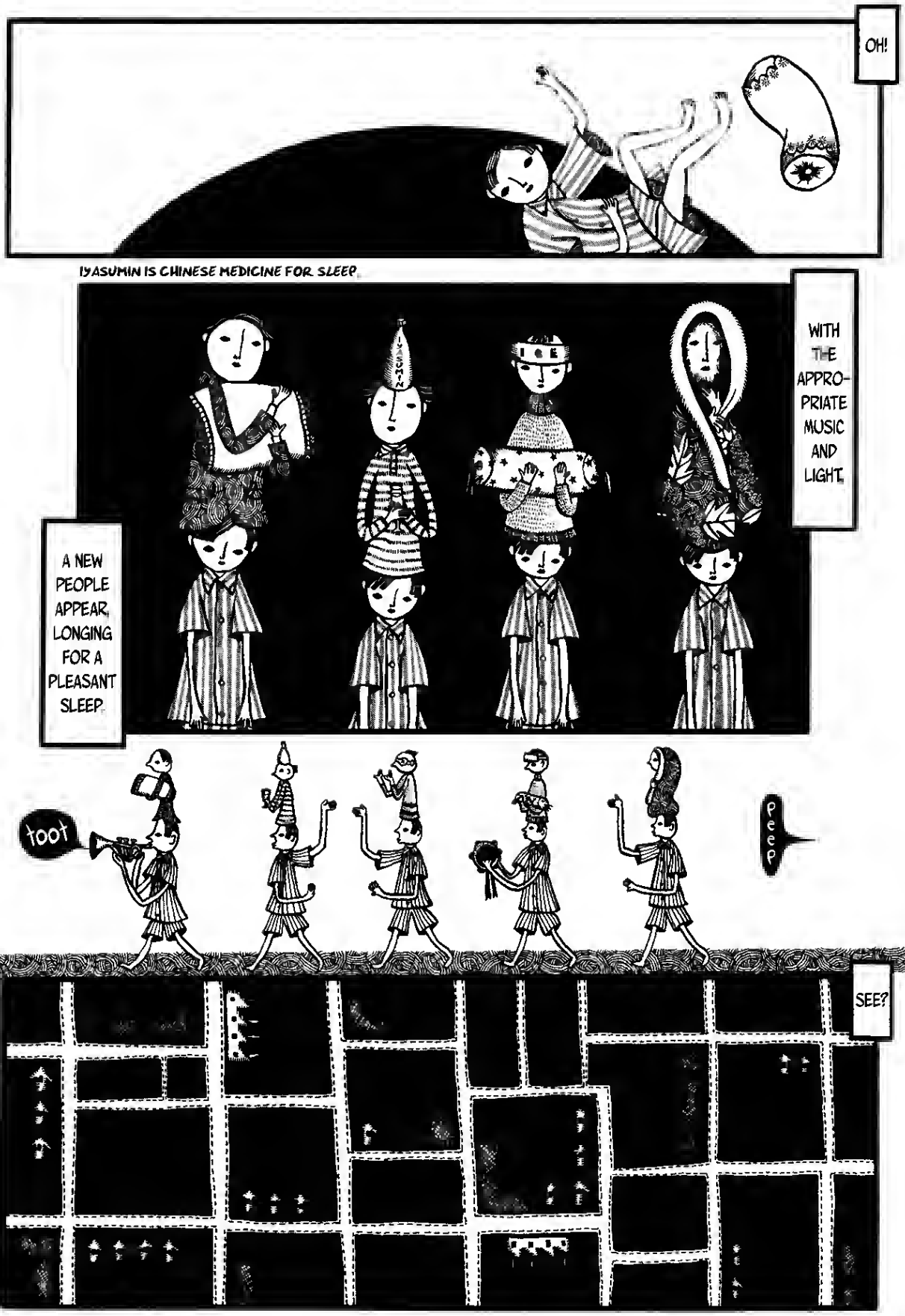
NIGHT

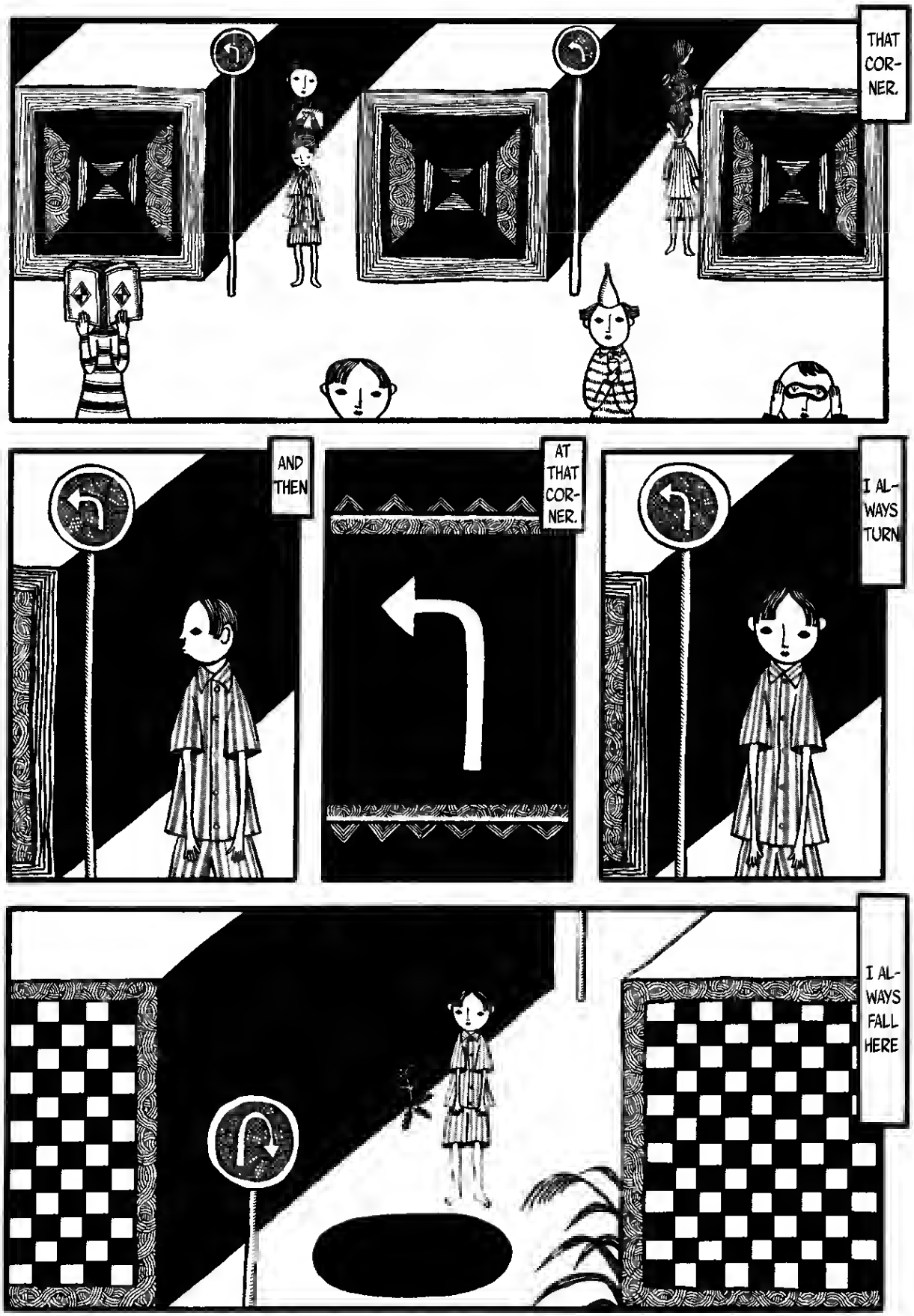
WHEN I FALL
IT'S ALWAYS IN THE SAME PLACE.

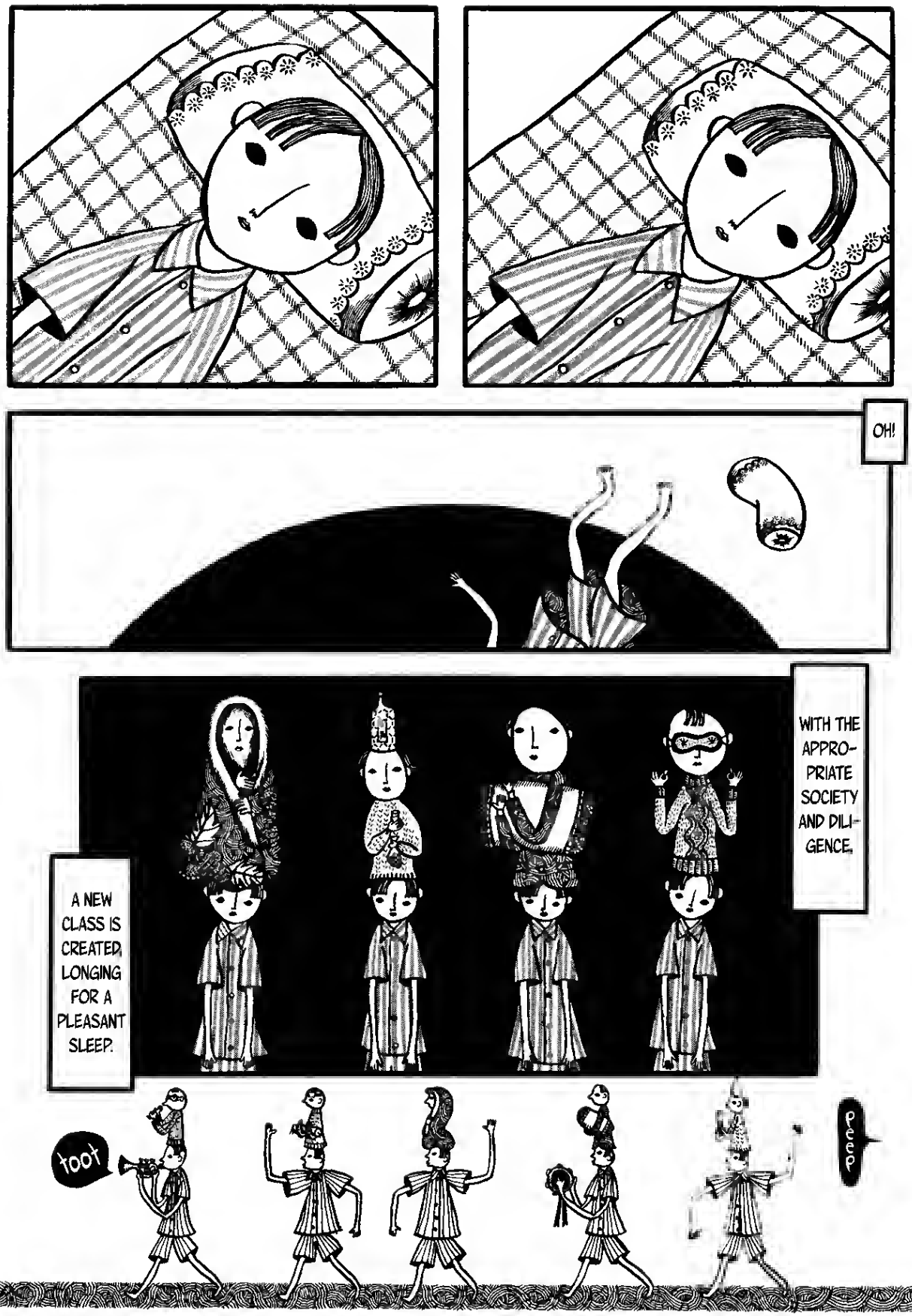

WHEN I FEEL LIKE
I WANT TO SLEEP.

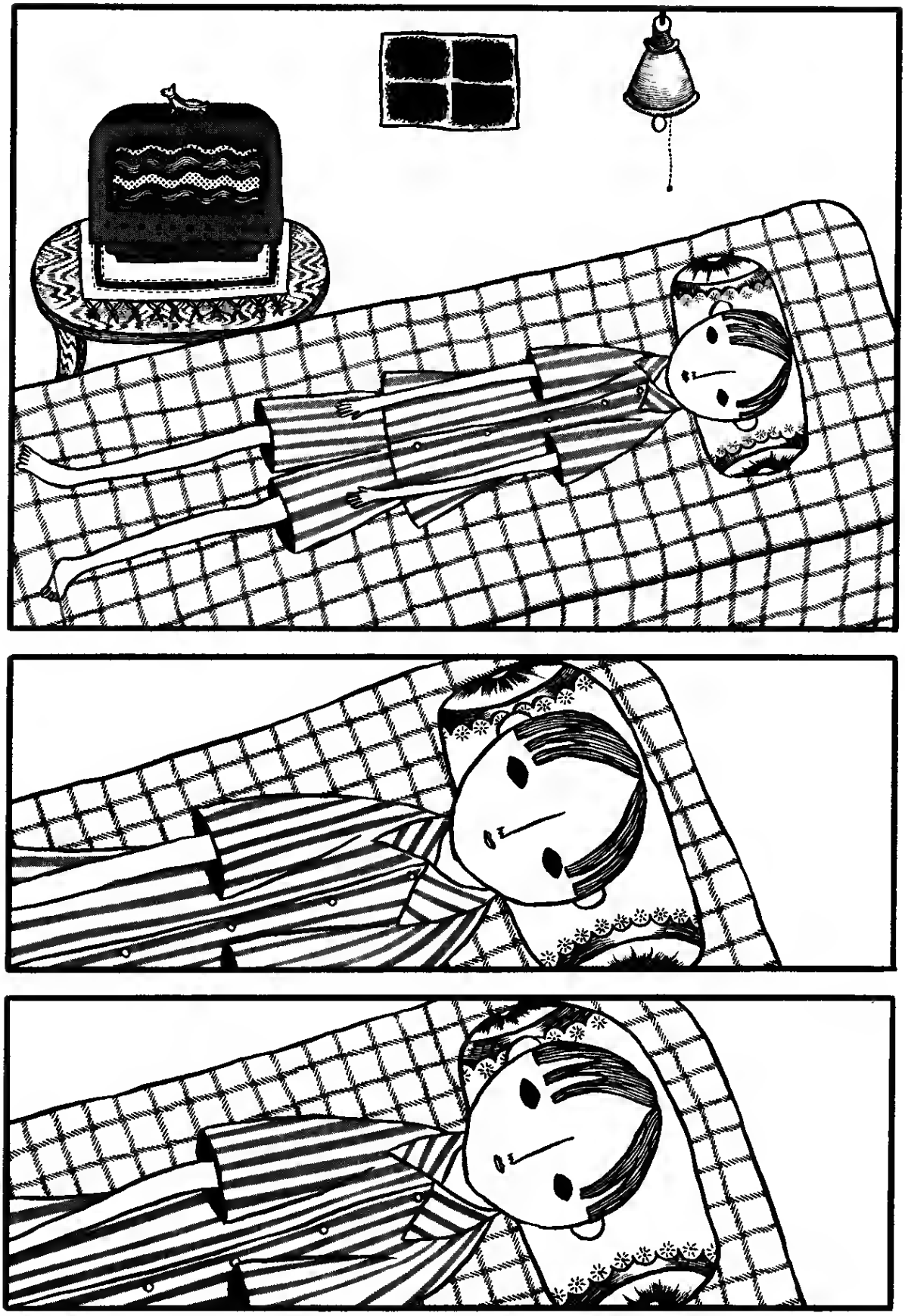

A HUGE HOLE
RIGHT BESIDE ME
THERE'S ALWAYS
WITH ITS MOUTH OPEN.
I HAVE TO TURN ON THE TV.
I HAVE TO TURN ON THE LIGHT.

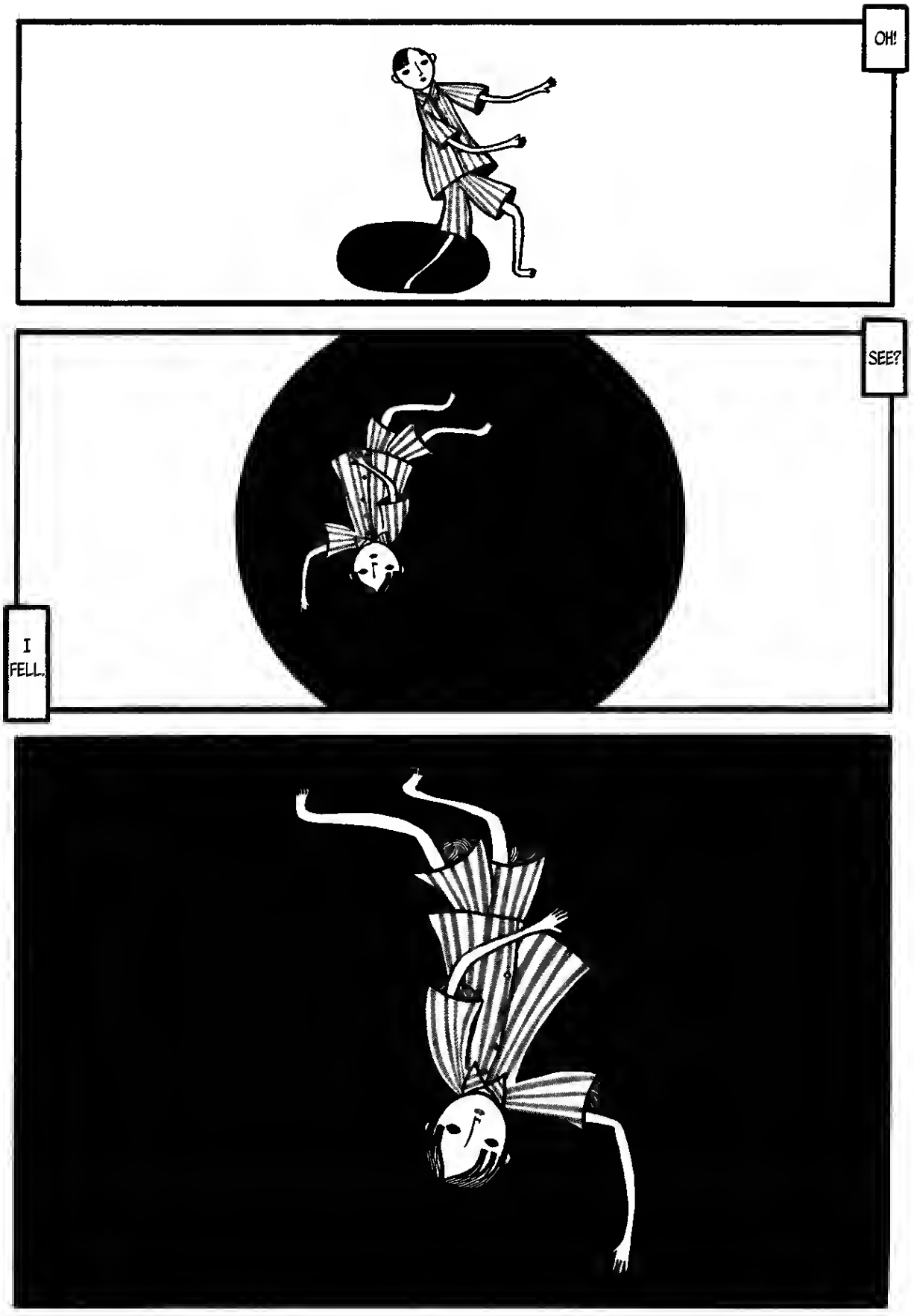

IF I'M NOT ON GUARD,
I HAVE TO BE ON GUARD.
BE-FORE I WANT TO.
I'LL FALL A-SLEEP

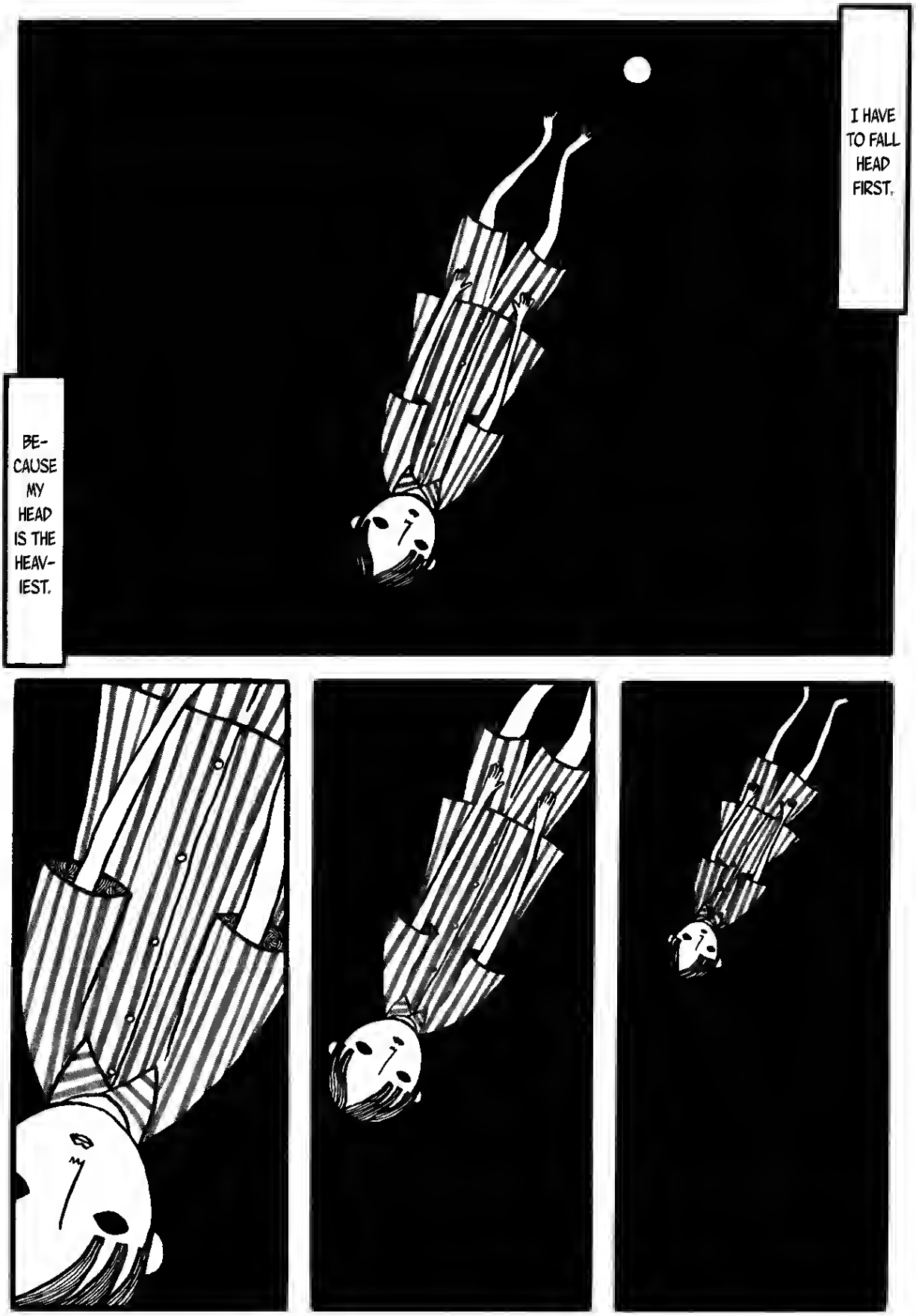

OH!
IYASUMIN IS CHINESE MEDICINE FOR SLEEP.
WITH THE APPRO-PRIATE MUSIC AND LIGHT,
A NEW PEOPLE APPEAR, LONGING FOR A PLEASANT SLEEP.
toot
peep
SEE?


THAT CORNER.
I ALWAYS TURN
AT THAT CORNER.
AND THEN
I ALWAYS FALL HERE

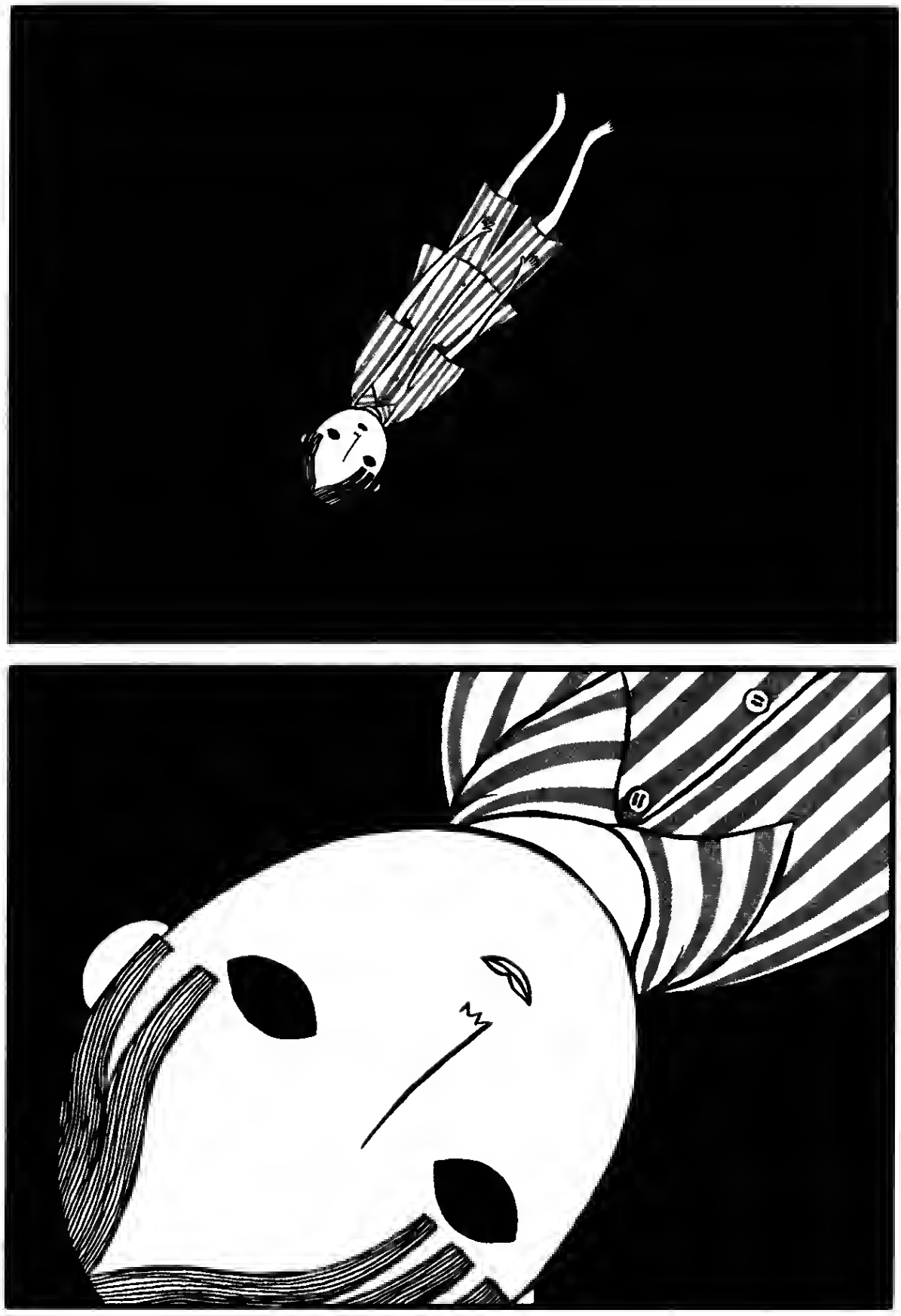

OH!
WITH THE APPRO-PRIATE SOCIETY AND DILI-GENCE,
A NEW CLASS IS CREATED, LONGING FOR A PLEASANT SLEEP.
toot
peep




OH!
SEE?
I FELL.


I HAVE TO FALL HEAD FIRST.
BE-CAUSE MY HEAD IS THE HEAV-IEST.

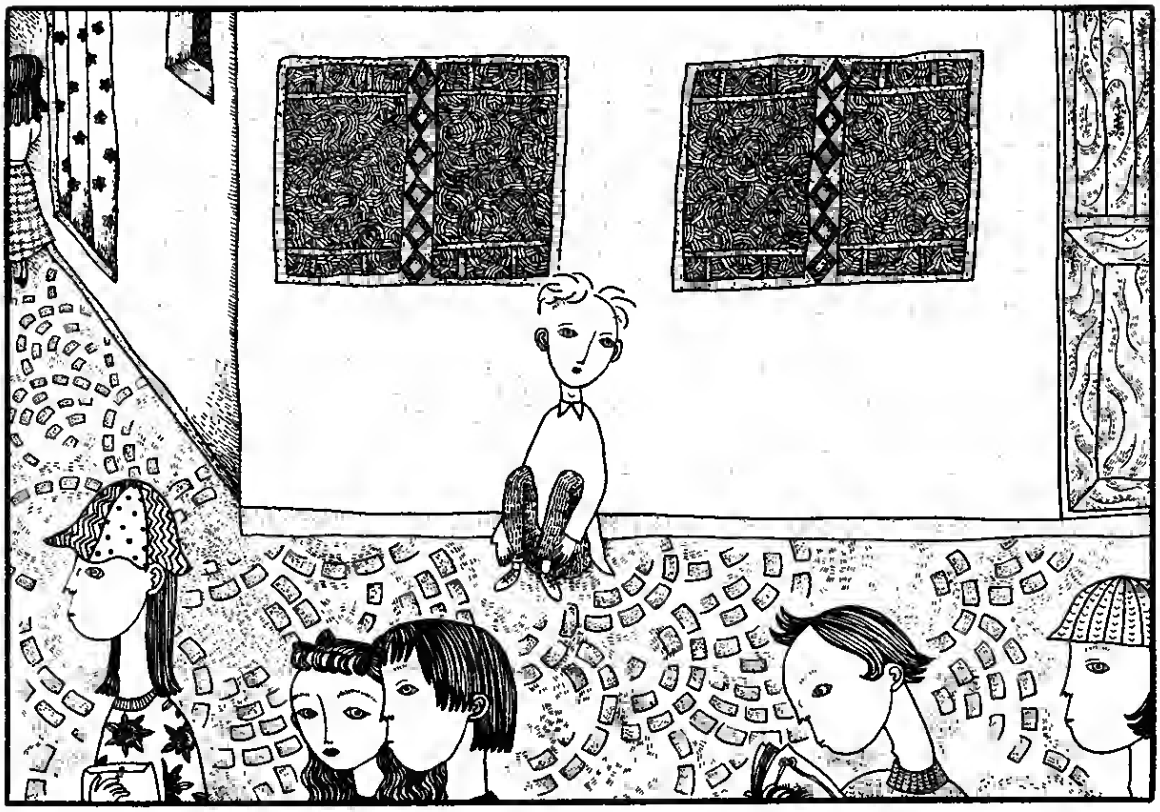
FOR SOME REASON WITHOUT FEAR, FOR SOME REASON WITH...
WITHOUT DESPAIR, WITH DESPAIR...
WITH-OUT ANY WORRY, WITH-OUT ANY WORRY.
FOR SOME REASON WITHOUT FEAR.
WITHOUT DESPAIR.
WITH-OUT ANY WORRY.



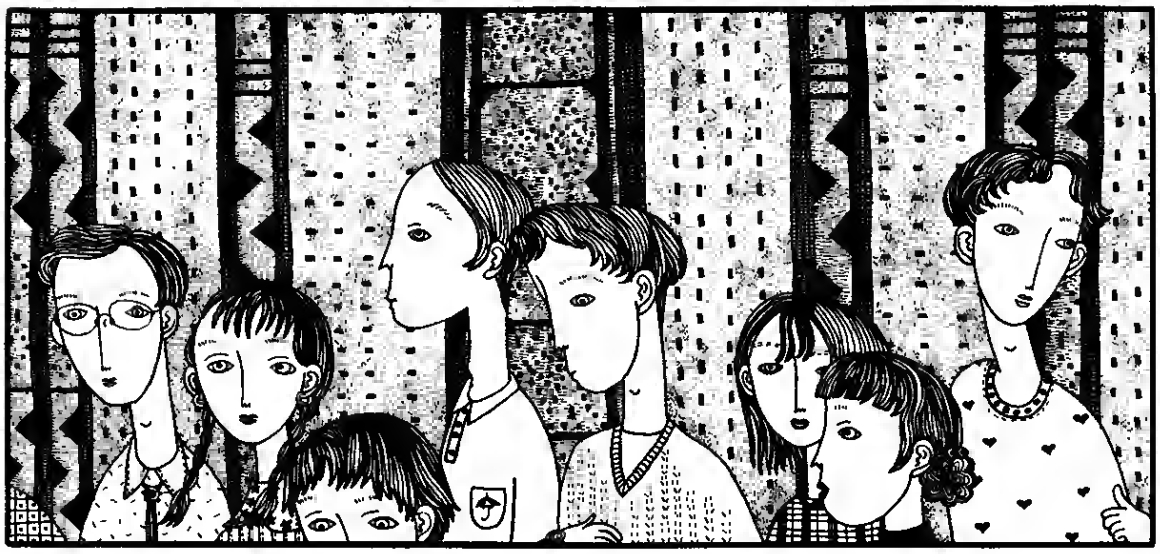
I MUST SLEEP.

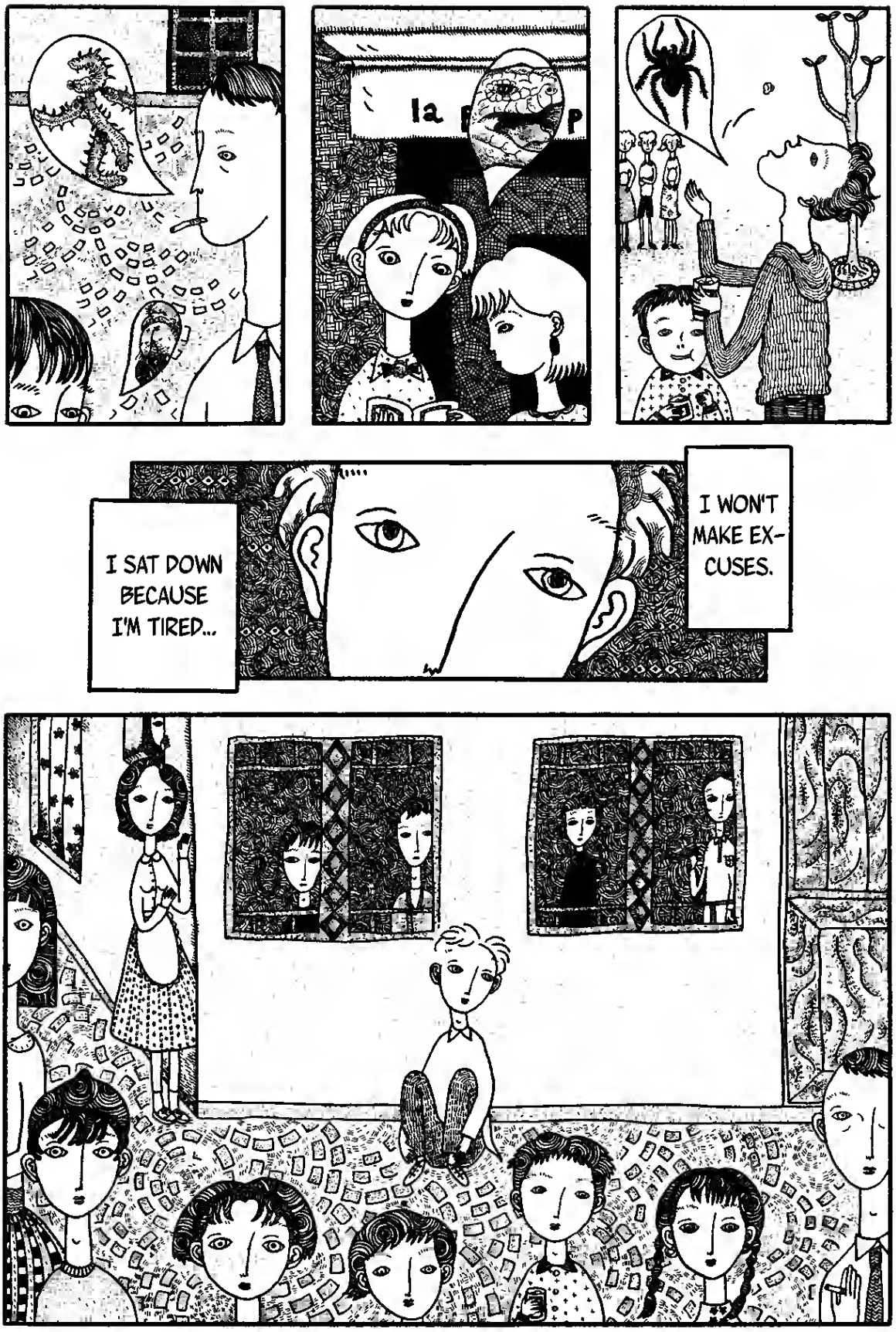
The End

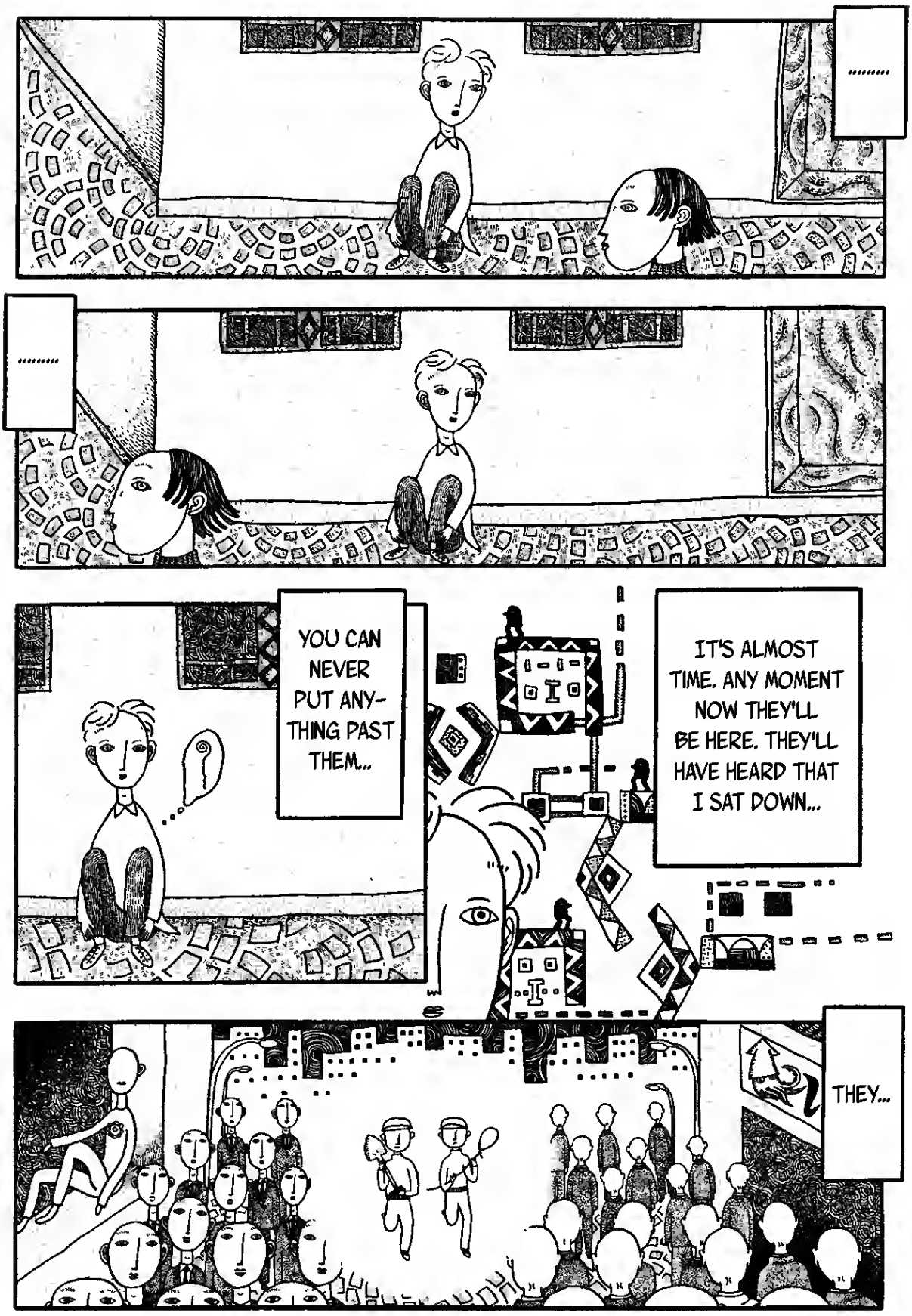
WIRE
Nishioka Kyodai



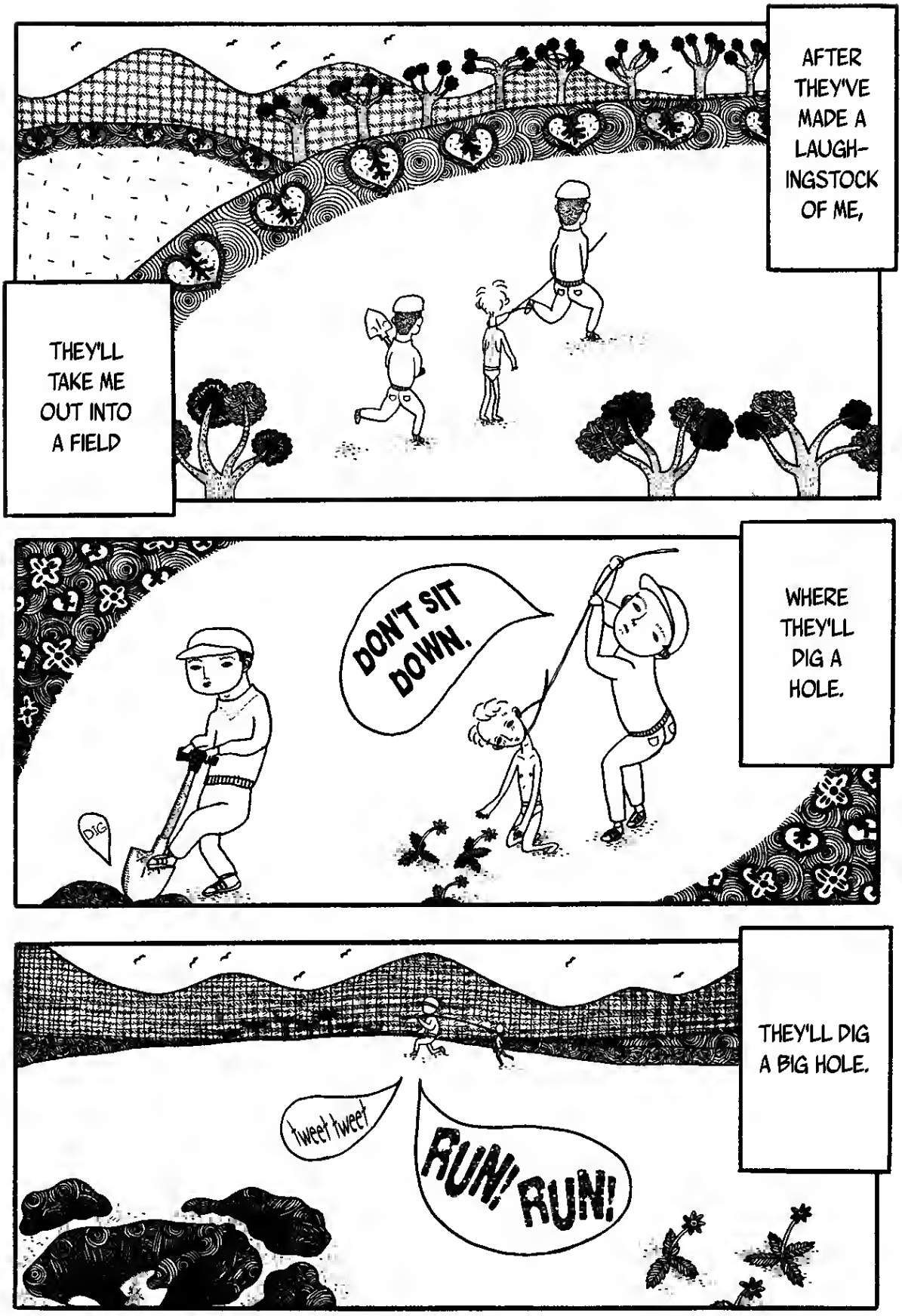
SAT DOWN...
I...

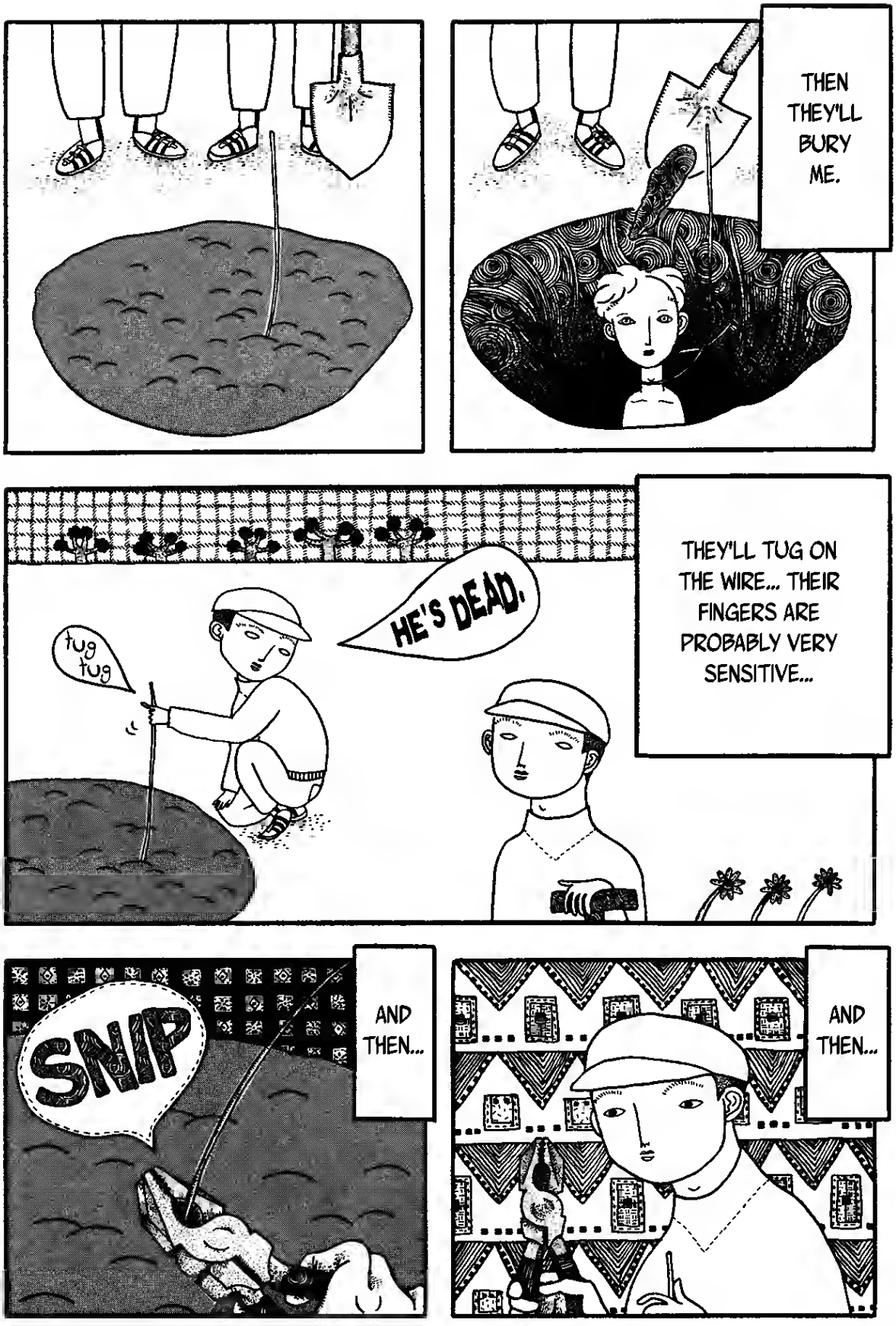


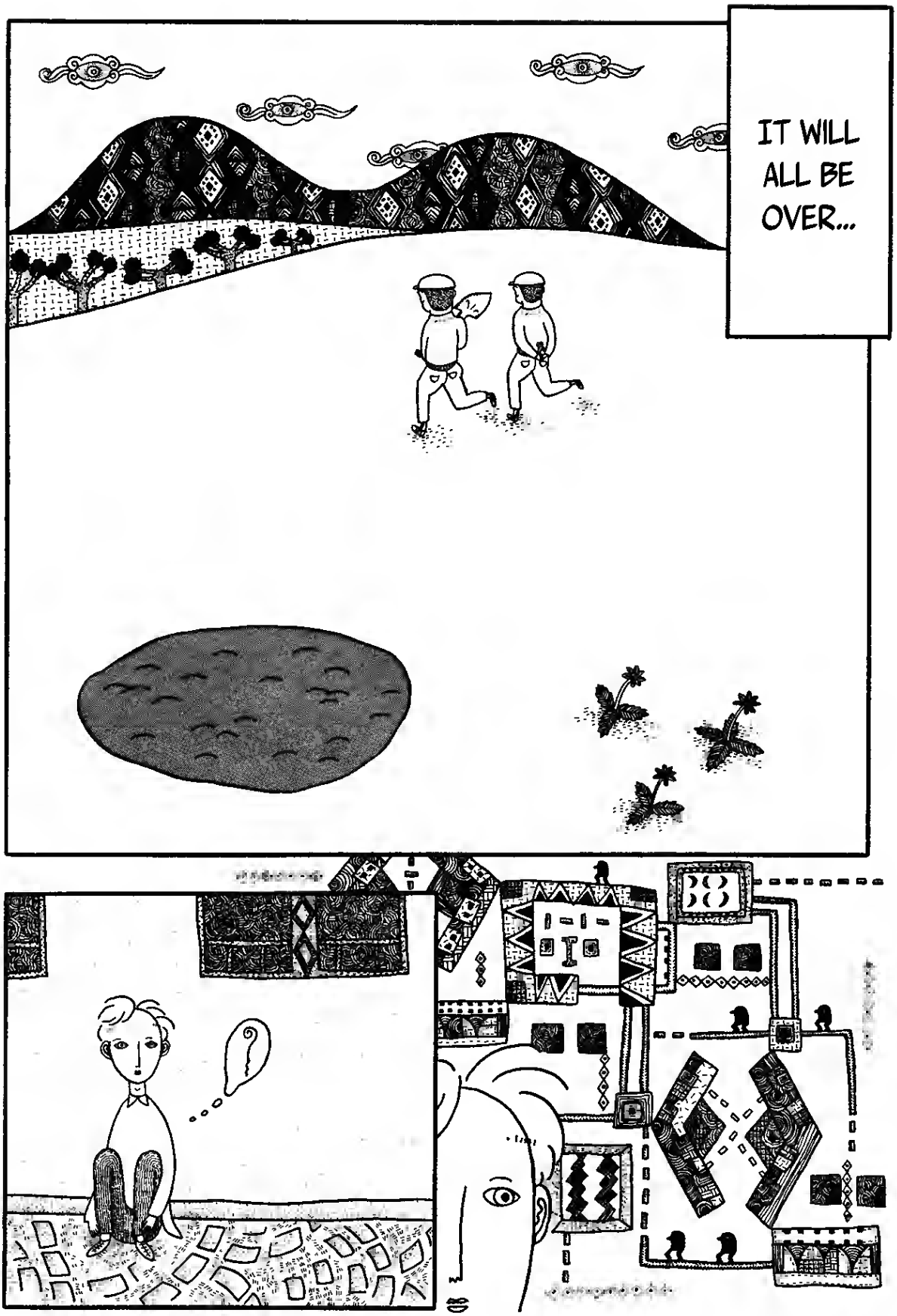

I SAT DOWN BECAUSE I'M TIRED...
I WON'T MAKE EX-CUSES.

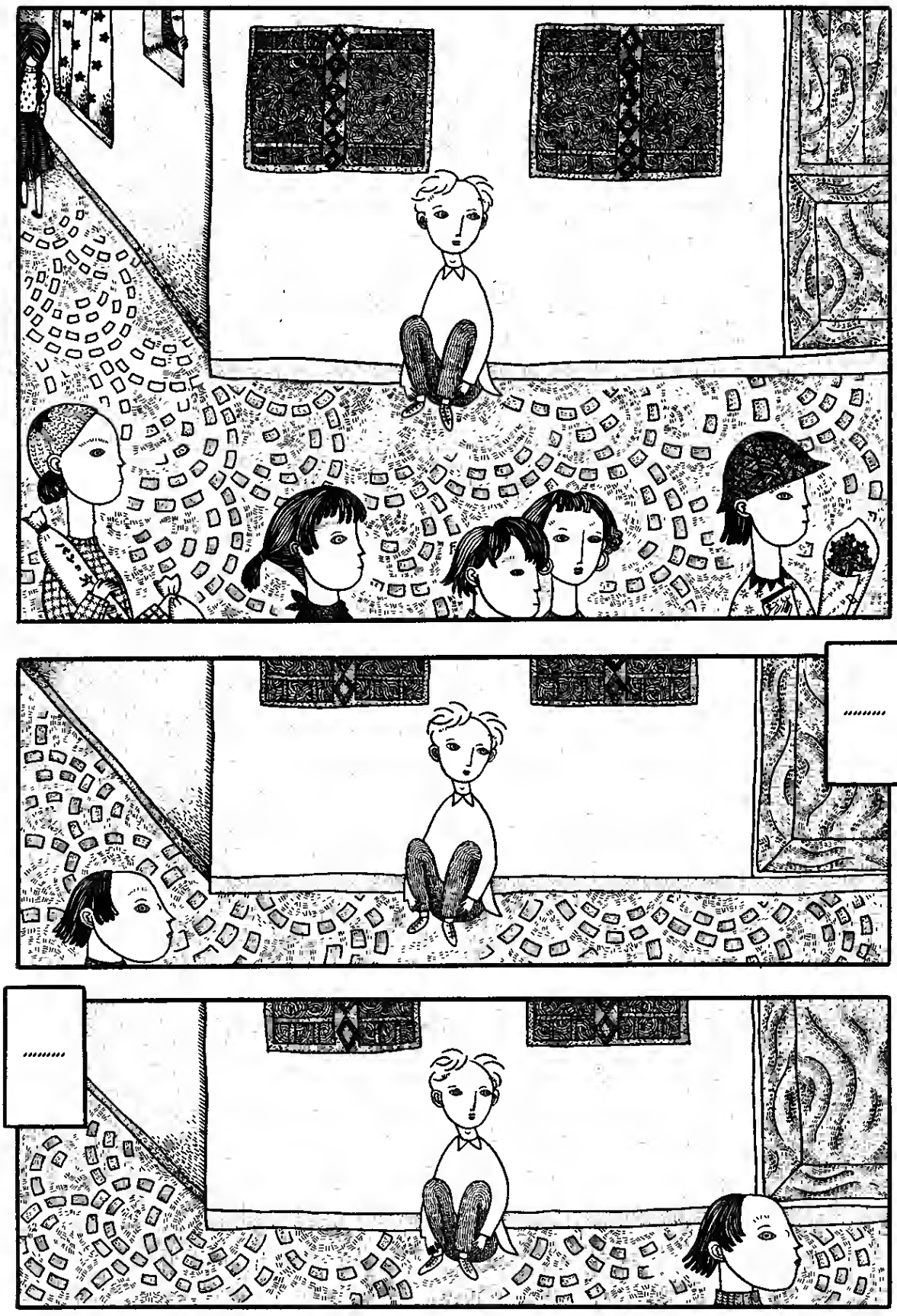

.....
.....
YOU CAN NEVER PUT ANY-THING PAST THEM...
IT'S ALMOST TIME. ANY MOMENT NOW THEY'LL BE HERE. THEY'LL HAVE HEARD THAT I SAT DOWN...
THEY...

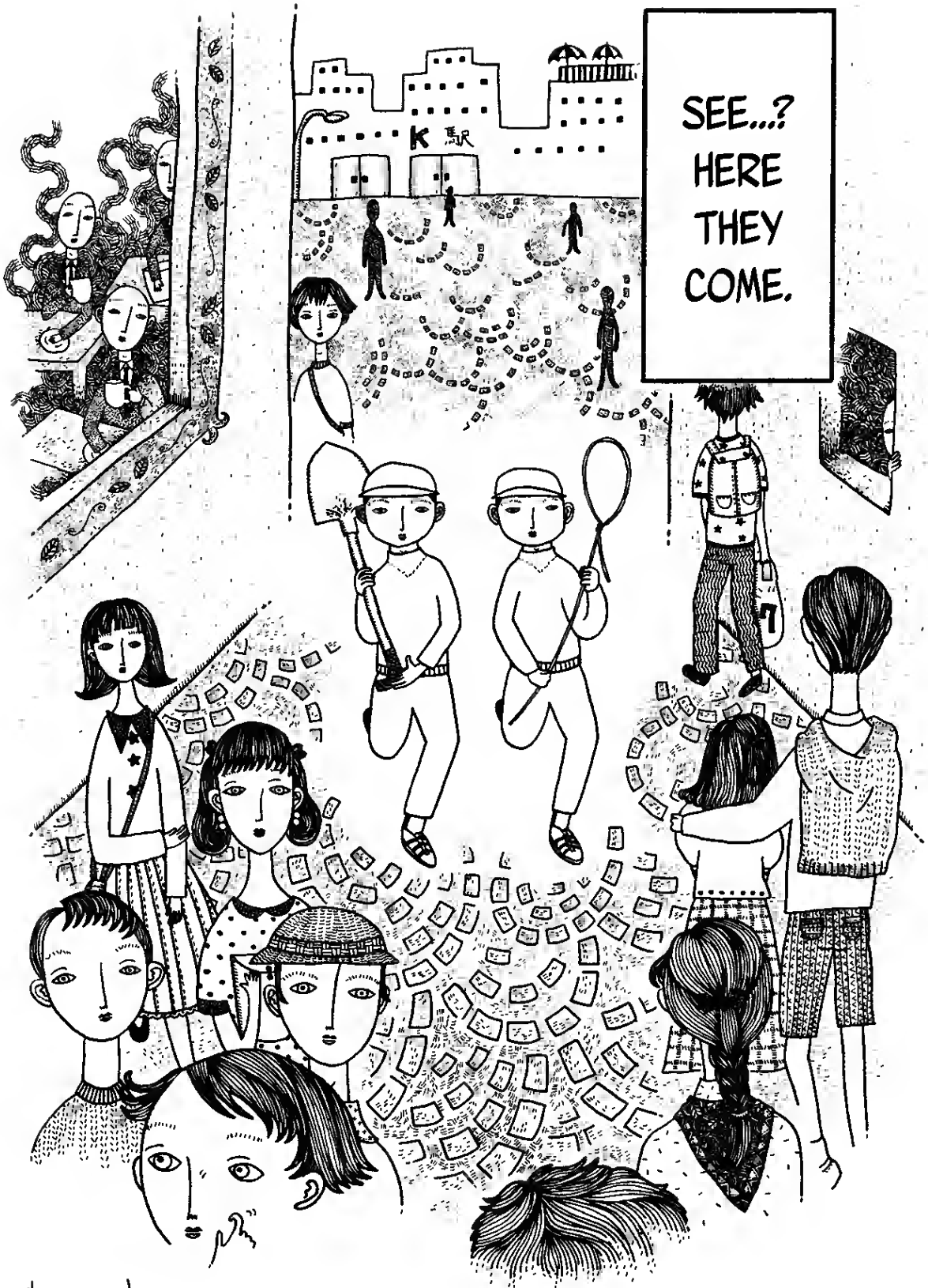
THEY WILL COME WITH THEIR WIRE.
WILL COME.
THEY WILL FORCE ME TO STRIP NAKED.
STRIP.
Can I at least keep my underwear on?
Slacker
THEY WILL PUT THAT WIRE AROUND MY NECK AND LEAD ME THROUGH TOWN.


AFTER THEY'VE MADE A LAUGH-INGSTOCK OF ME,
THEY'LL TAKE ME OUT INTO A FIELD
DON'T SIT DOWN.
WHERE THEY'LL DIG A HOLE.
DIG
THEY'LL DIG A BIG HOLE.
tweet tweet
RUN! RUN!

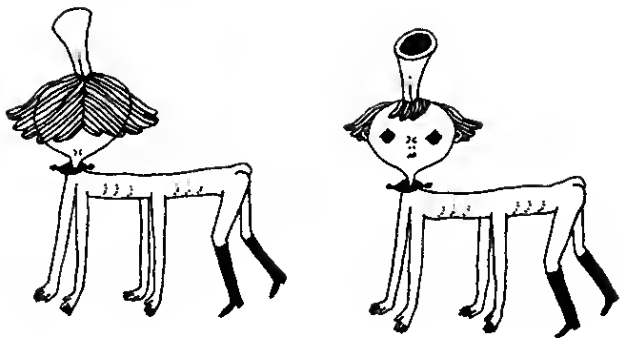

THEN THEY'LL BURY ME.
THEY'LL TUG ON THE WIRE... THEIR FINGERS ARE PROBABLY VERY SENSITIVE...
tug tug
HE'S DEAD.
SNIP
AND THEN...
AND THEN...


IT WILL ALL BE OVER...





The End



Afterword.....
Why do people say "there is good in leftovers"?

There are many difficulties in publishing. There are also many different considerations and concerns involved. That is how publishing is. We would like for you to keep that in mind.

In this world, there are times when a little carelessness leads to something irrevocable. It is quite common to think, "Oh, if only I hadn't done that." That is just how the world works. We would like for you to keep that in mind as well.

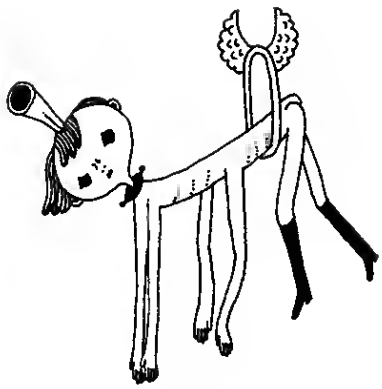
There were a few problems in getting this book published. This fall, our first book, "Hell: Self-Chosen Stories by Nishioka Kyodai" came out to good reviews, which was a very happy event and we are truly grateful to our readers and those involved in the process. Thank you very much. The stories contained in "Hell," by the way were written bit by bit over the past ten years, and we were very careful, very, very careful, in choosing what went into our first book. When humans do something good, they want others to appreciate that. That is how humans are. The subtitle "self-chosen stories" was meant to emphasize our hard work and sincerity towards our readers. But we must have gotten a little carried away.

We didn't realize that by using the phrase "self-chosen," the stories we didn't choose then became "leftovers." That's a problem. Now by publishing this book, we appear to be just trying to sell you all our random leftovers. Not only that, but in an interview with Ax Magazine, we said some terrible things which cannot be excused by the fact that we were drunk, such as "our old stories are too busy" and "embarrassing," so now we look like awful people who are trying to wring money out of you by selling you our "too busy," "embarrassing" "leftovers."

Are we really that awful? Would you pay money for stories by such awful people?

Must we apologize? Would apologizing make it any better?

That's not true. We are not actually terrible people, and we have no intention of apologizing. The reason is that there's a saying: "there is good in leftovers." People in the past had the right idea. They knew how to solve a problem without bending the truth. Even if these are "leftovers" and we really did think they were "too busy" and "embarrassing," so what? They will bring something "good" to you all. Don't you want to be happy? Is this one volume of manga more important than happiness? Of course not. Being happy is more important than anything. And we want you to be happy. It makes us happy to know that our art can bring our readers joy. And so not only will you be happy, but so will we. It is mankind's greatest joy to bring happiness to others. That is how good humans are. So, do you still think we're awful people? Do you still think we should apologize? Though of course we're not demanding you be grateful.



Do you understand now why they say "there is good in leftovers"? It's true that forcing leftovers on someone might be bad. But you can't just take unhappiness as unhappiness. Doing that brings unhappiness not just to yourself, but draws everyone around you into a spiral of unhappiness. That is not the right way to live. So there has to be a little "good," even if it's slightly forced. We must learn from the wisdom of those who came before us. There is so much unhappiness in the world. But depending on your mindset, there can also be so much happiness. Everything is up to you. Please be happy.

A day near the end of the 20th century,

Nishioka Kyodai

Afterword (New Edition)..... Why do we forgive "youthful indiscretions"?

Everyone has their own "circumstances." These are often things we'd rather other people not know. When someone says, "Well, circumstances don't really permit..." it's not generally considered a good thing to pry into those circumstances. Is there anyone who doesn't have or hasn't ever had such "circumstances"? Such "circumstances" are involved in our decision to put out a remake of our previously self-published book "Me-Bug," and we would like you to keep that in mind that it would be best for all of us if you don't think too deeply on what those "circumstances" could be.

"Youth" in and of itself is not a bad thing. There are many positive aspects to "youth." However, "foolishness" always goes hand in hand with "youth." That is why people in the past came up with the expression "youthful indiscretions." The dictionary has this to say: "To act rashly due to the thoughtlessness of youth." In other words, "Youth makes one rash." If you are young now, you may not understand this. Almost everything you do is rash. Even those who think they are making good decisions aren't. That is what "youth" means. But society does not blame you for your actions. Why is that? It is because of the phrase "youthful indiscretions." From these words, you can sense the tolerance of mature adults, who are thinking, "Well, they're young, so we should go lightly on them. After all, we all did stupid things in our youth."

People in the past had the right idea. They knew that as a society, we must allow certain things so that they can be true to themselves. You young people don't even realize it yourselves, but society, mature adults, are forgiving of that rashness.

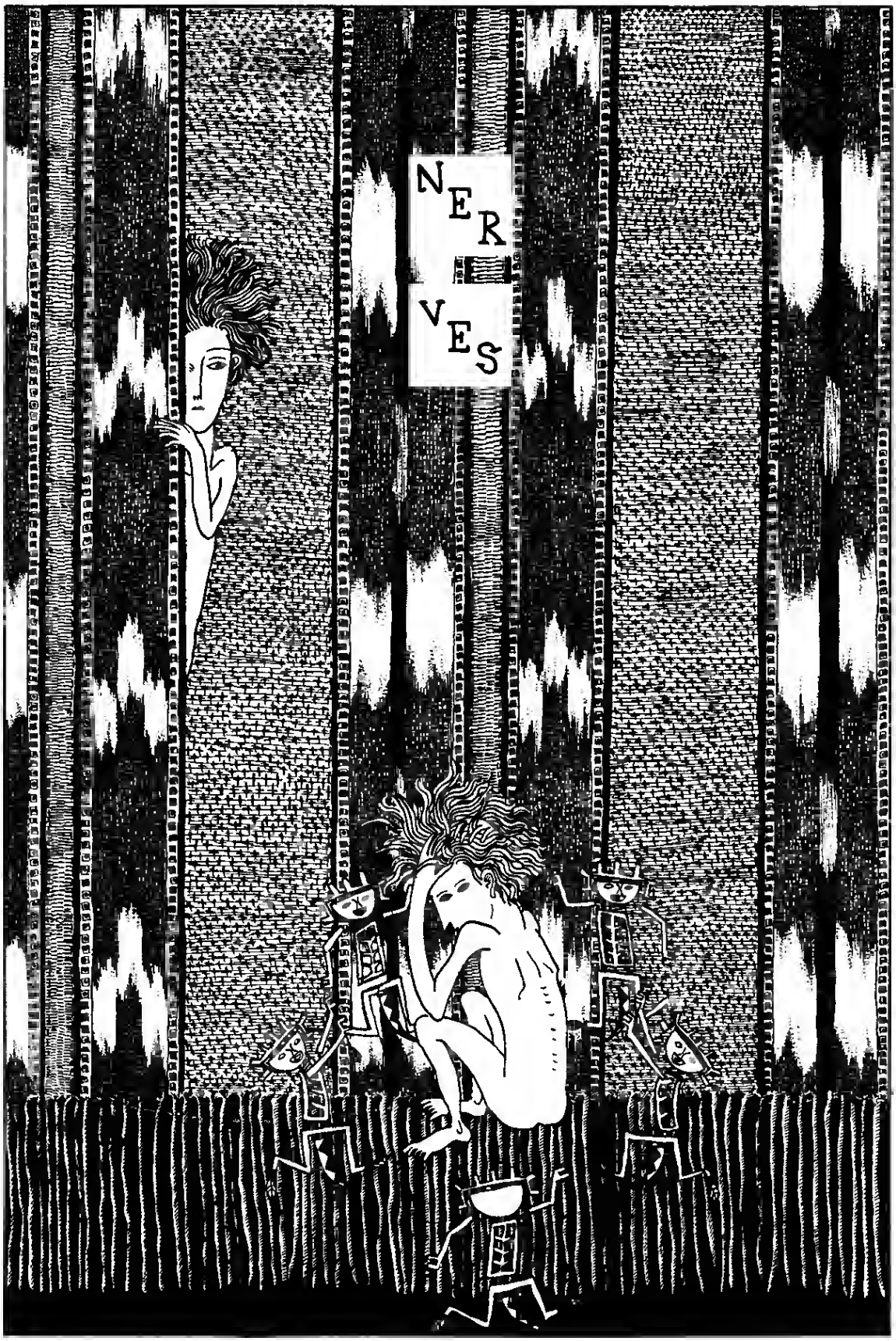
And now to get to the point. Is it all right for people who are the recipients of such leniency or have been in the past, to then turn around and refuse that leniency to others? Of course not. We must all look on "youth" with leniency. As you can guess from the subtitle of this book, "Nishioka Kyodai's Early Works", these are all stories we wrote when we were "young." Even as a child, I always thought of myself as a very prudent person, but looking back, it seems I was not immune to the trickery of "youth."
Let me be frank. This book is filled with "youthful" mistakes. But it's not my fault. The blame lies entirely with "youth." It is important to forgive one another. A lack of forgiveness will always breed hatred. And hatred will breed war. Don't you want peace? Do you really want there to be war? Is this one volume of manga more important than world peace? Of course not.
It is my sincere hope that you will take from this book a spirit of forgiveness and a prayer for peace.

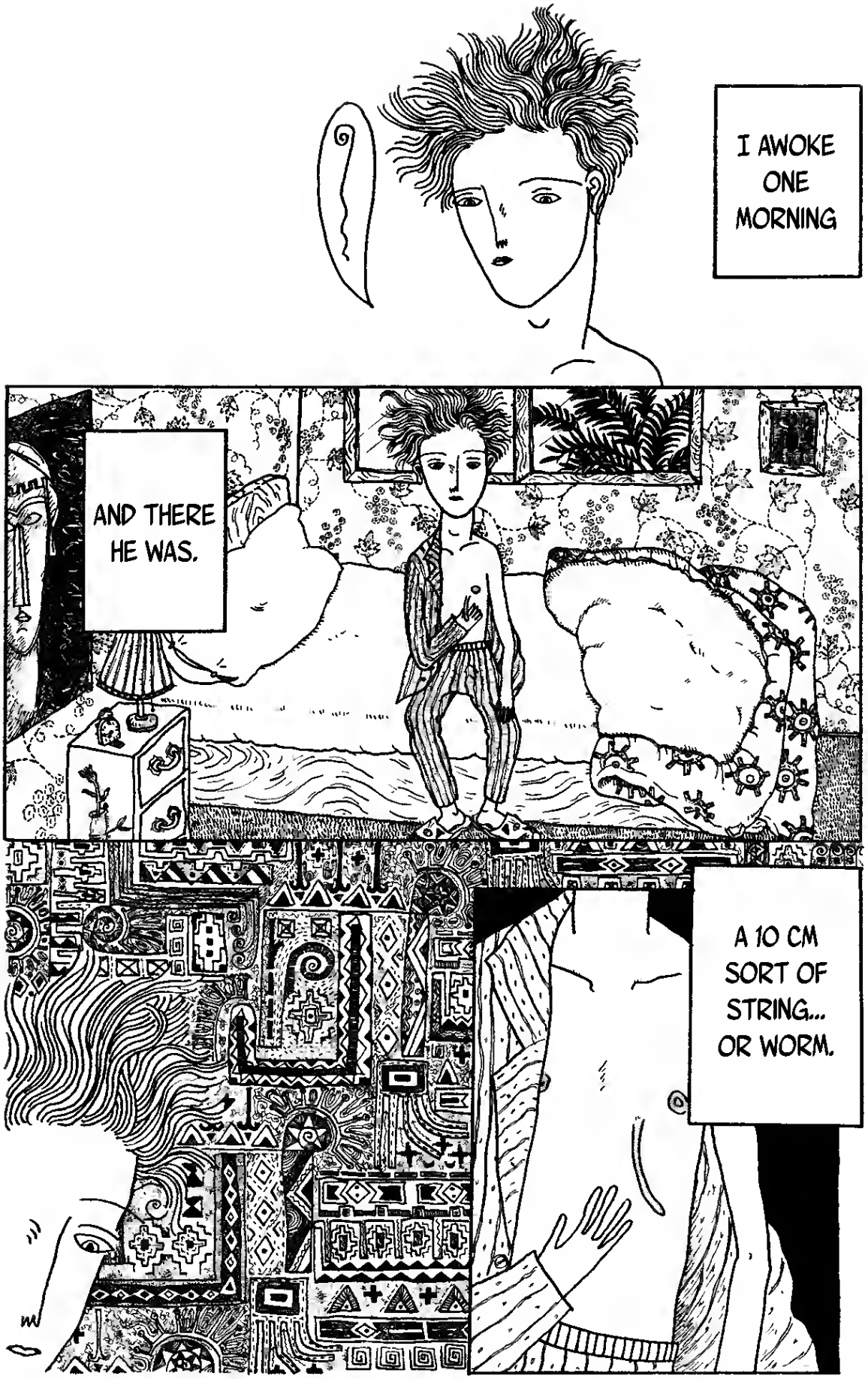
And finally, I considered leaving this book in its privately published form to languish in obscurity. But I couldn't do that. The reason was both my prayer for peace, and more than anything, the aforementioned "circumstances." But let us not pry into them. It is best for all of us.

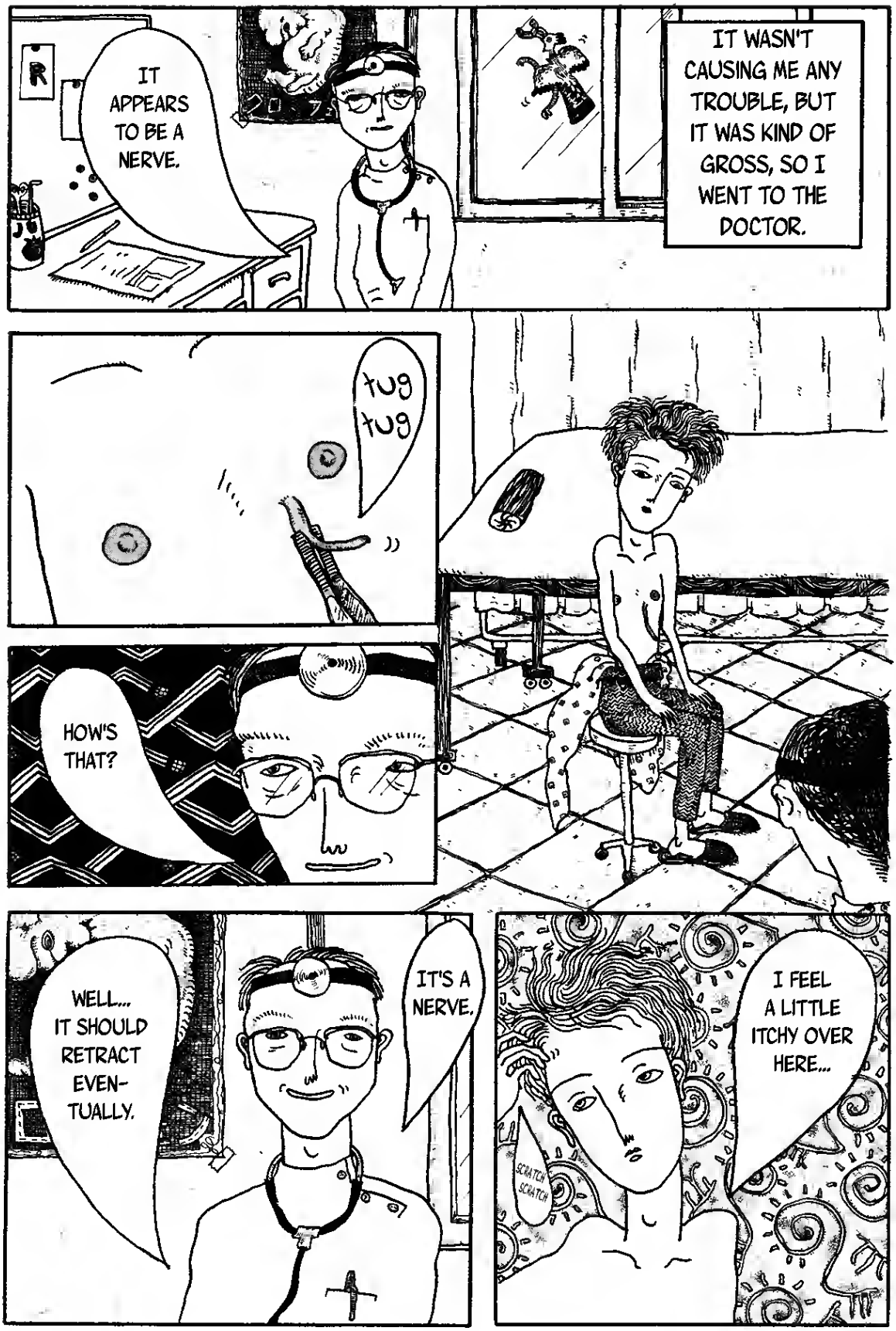
A day when war continues to rage,

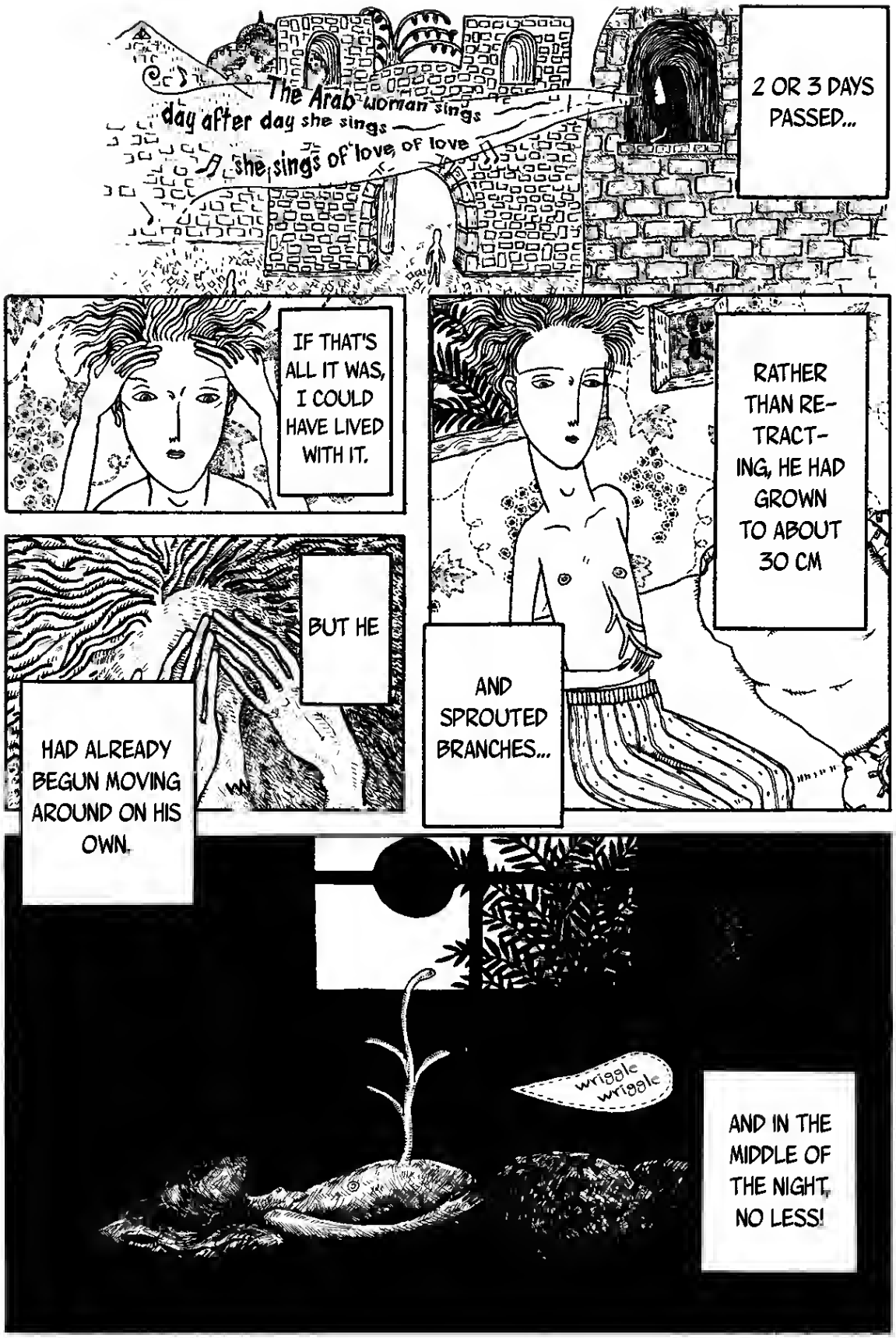
Nishioka Kyodai

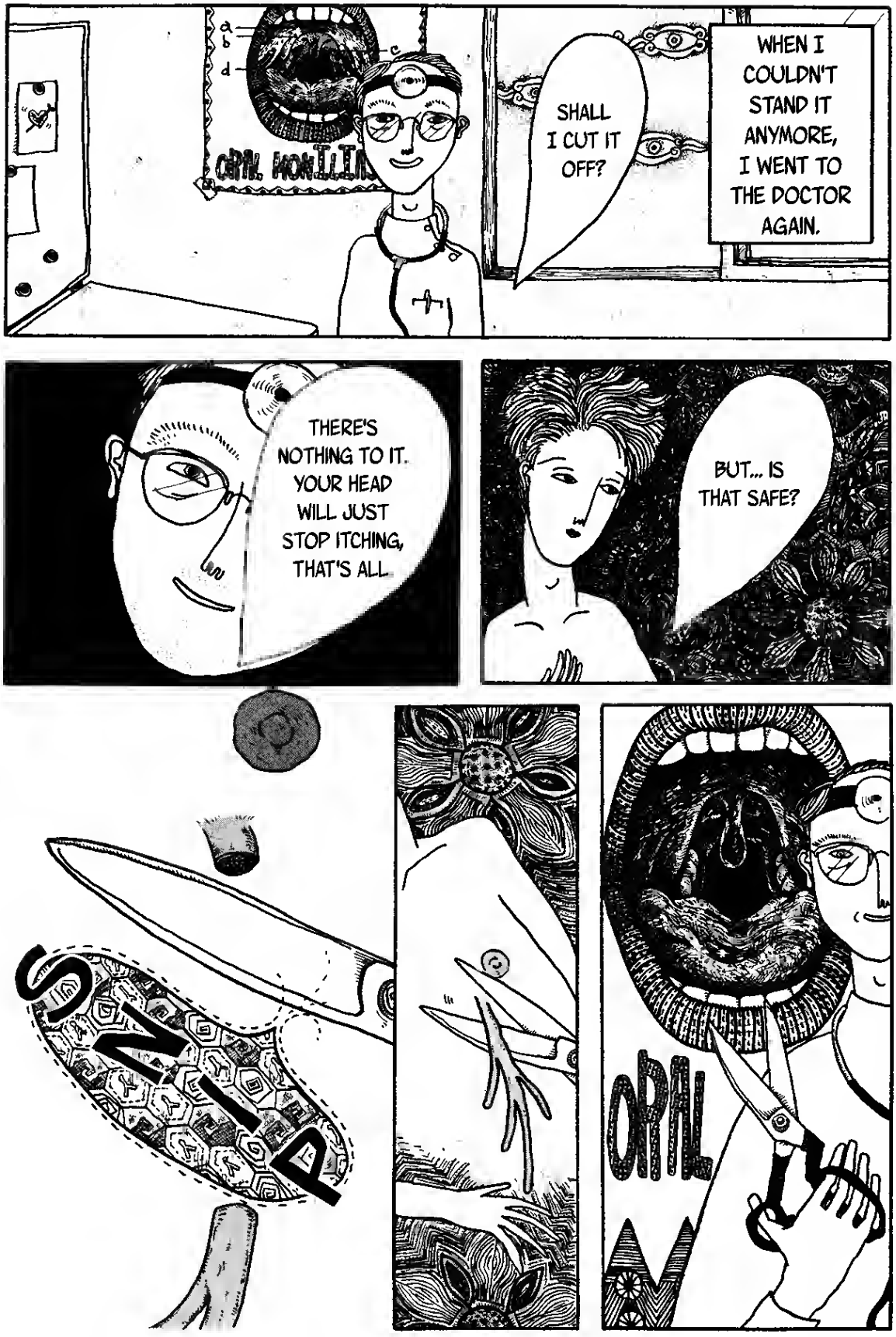
NERVES - 153
THE KANGAROO'S DESCENDANTS - 165
SINNER (ORIGINAL TITLE: I DON'T WANT YOU TO JUDGE ME) - 179


NERVES


I AWOKE ONE MORNING
AND THERE HE WAS.
A 10 CM SORT OF STRING... OR WORM.


IT APPEARS TO BE A NERVE.
IT WASN'T CAUSING ME ANY TROUBLE, BUT IT WAS KIND OF GROSS, SO I WENT TO THE DOCTOR.
tug tug
HOW'S THAT?
WELL... IT SHOULD RETRACT EVEN-TUALLY.
IT'S A NERVE.
I FEEL A LITTLE ITCHY OVER HERE...
SCRATCH SCRATCH

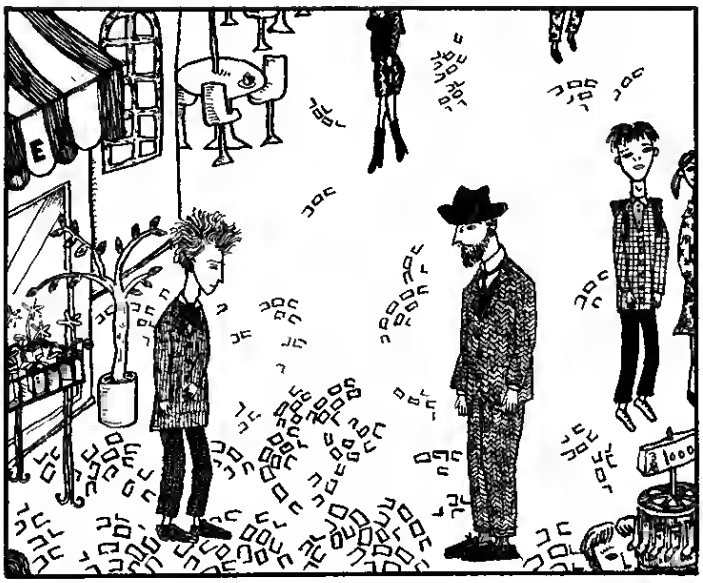

The Arab woman sings
day after day she sings
she sings of love, of love
2 OR 3 DAYS PASSED...
IF THAT'S ALL IT WAS, I COULD HAVE LIVED WITH IT.
RATHER THAN RE-TRACT-ING, HE HAD GROWN TO ABOUT 30 CM
BUT HE
HAD ALREADY BEGUN MOVING AROUND ON HIS OWN.
AND SPROUTED BRANCHES...
wriggle wriggle
AND IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, NO LESS!


a
b
d
c
SHALL I CUT IT OFF?
WHEN I COULDN'T STAND IT ANYMORE, I WENT TO THE DOCTOR AGAIN.
THERE'S NOTHING TO IT. YOUR HEAD WILL JUST STOP ITCHING, THAT'S ALL.
BUT... IS THAT SAFE?
SNIP
ORAL

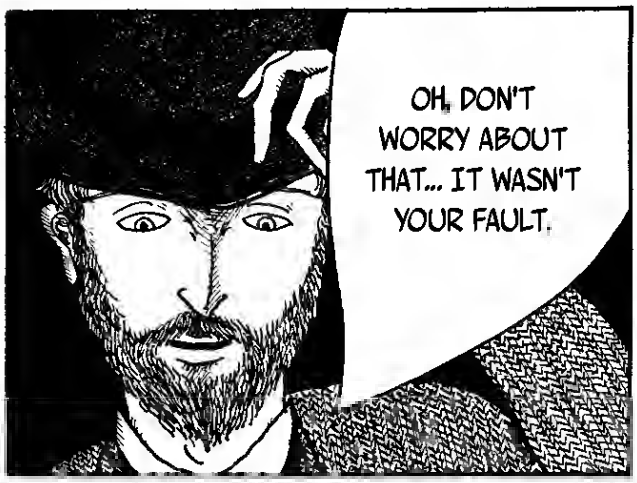
.....
TWITCH
TWITCH
DEAR BIG SIS-TER...
NO...
WAG WAG
DO YOU WANT TO KEEP IT?
THEN I'LL JUST THROW IT AWAY.
TOSS

All better now.
...
...
...
BUT I COULDN'T REMEMBER WHAT IT WAS I'D FORGOTTEN.
I... I HAD FORGOTTEN SOMETHING...
The Arab woman sings today and tomorrow she sings but I am not an Arab woman
ONE DAY...

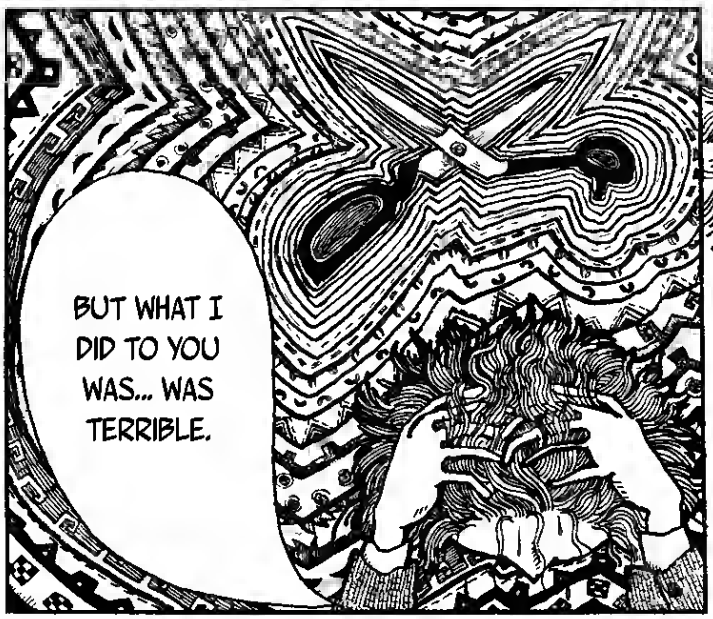
I TURNED AROUND.
EXCUSE ME...
SOMEONE STOPPED ME IN THE STREET.
LONG TIME, NO SEE.
IT WAS HIM.
IT WAS DEFINITE-LY HIM.
HE WAS ALL DRESSED UP, BUT I KNEW RIGHT AWAY.
WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU'RE LOOKING GREEN...
...
...
...



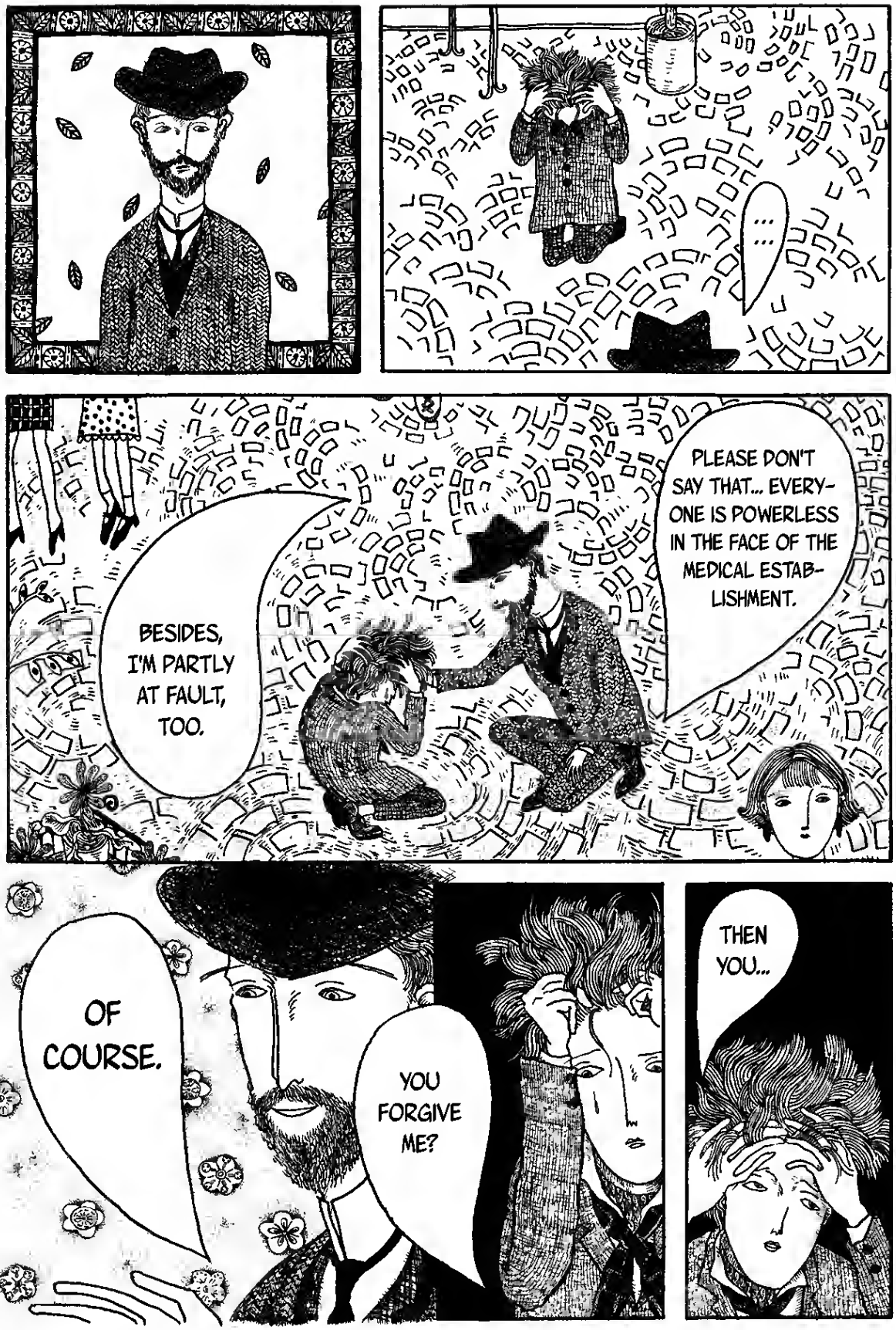
I... I...


OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT... IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT.

...
...


BUT WHAT I DID TO YOU WAS... WAS TERRIBLE.

BUT...

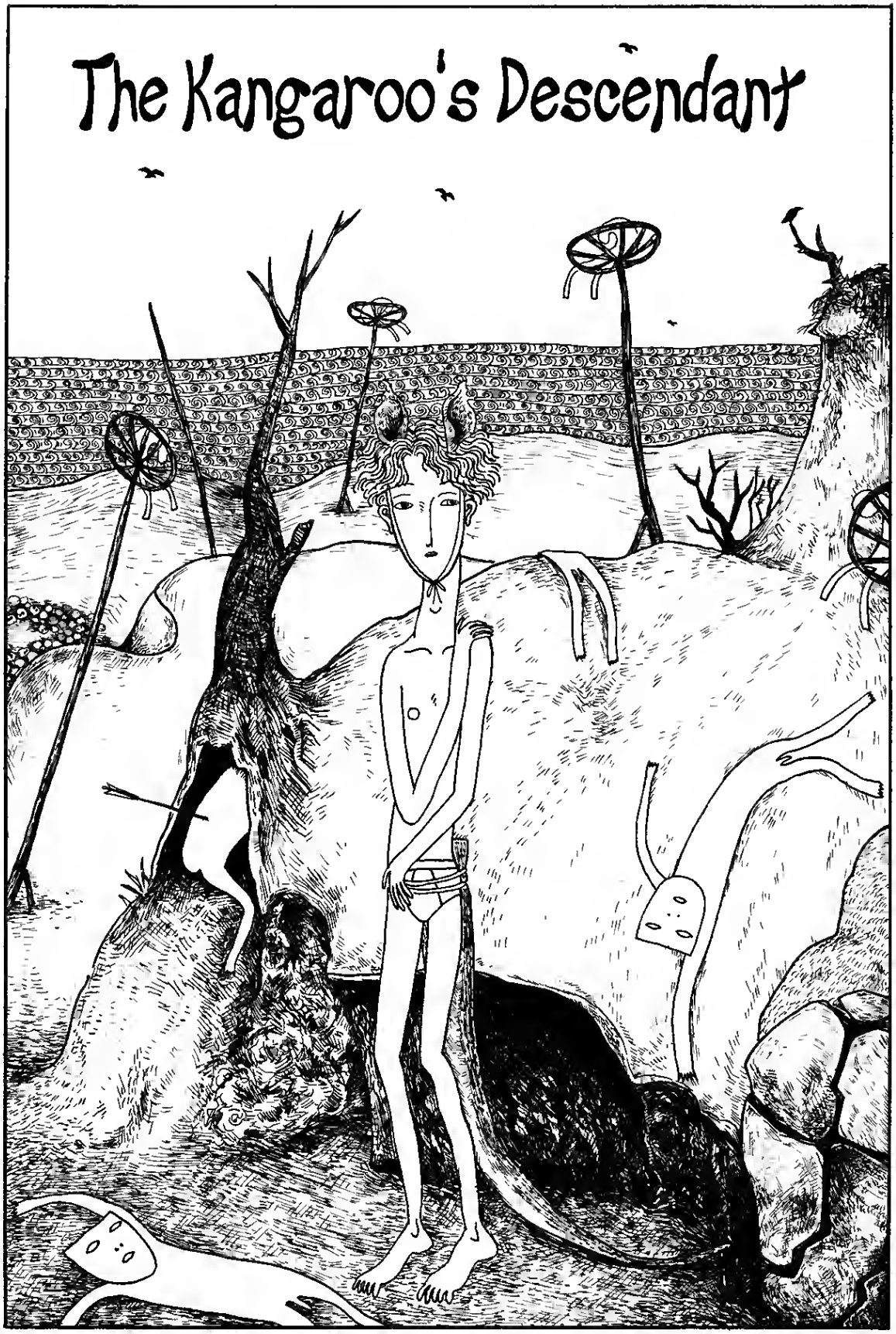

PLEASE DON'T SAY THAT... EVERY-ONE IS POWERLESS IN THE FACE OF THE MEDICAL ESTAB-LISHMENT.
BESIDES, I'M PARTLY AT FAULT, TOO.
YOU FORGIVE ME?
OF COURSE.
THEN YOU...

HEY.
OH.
I'M GLAD I HAD A CHANCE TO SEE YOU. REALLY GLAD.
WELL, I'D BETTER GET GOING NOW. MY COMPANION IS WAITING.
BRUSH BRUSH
FARE-WELL.

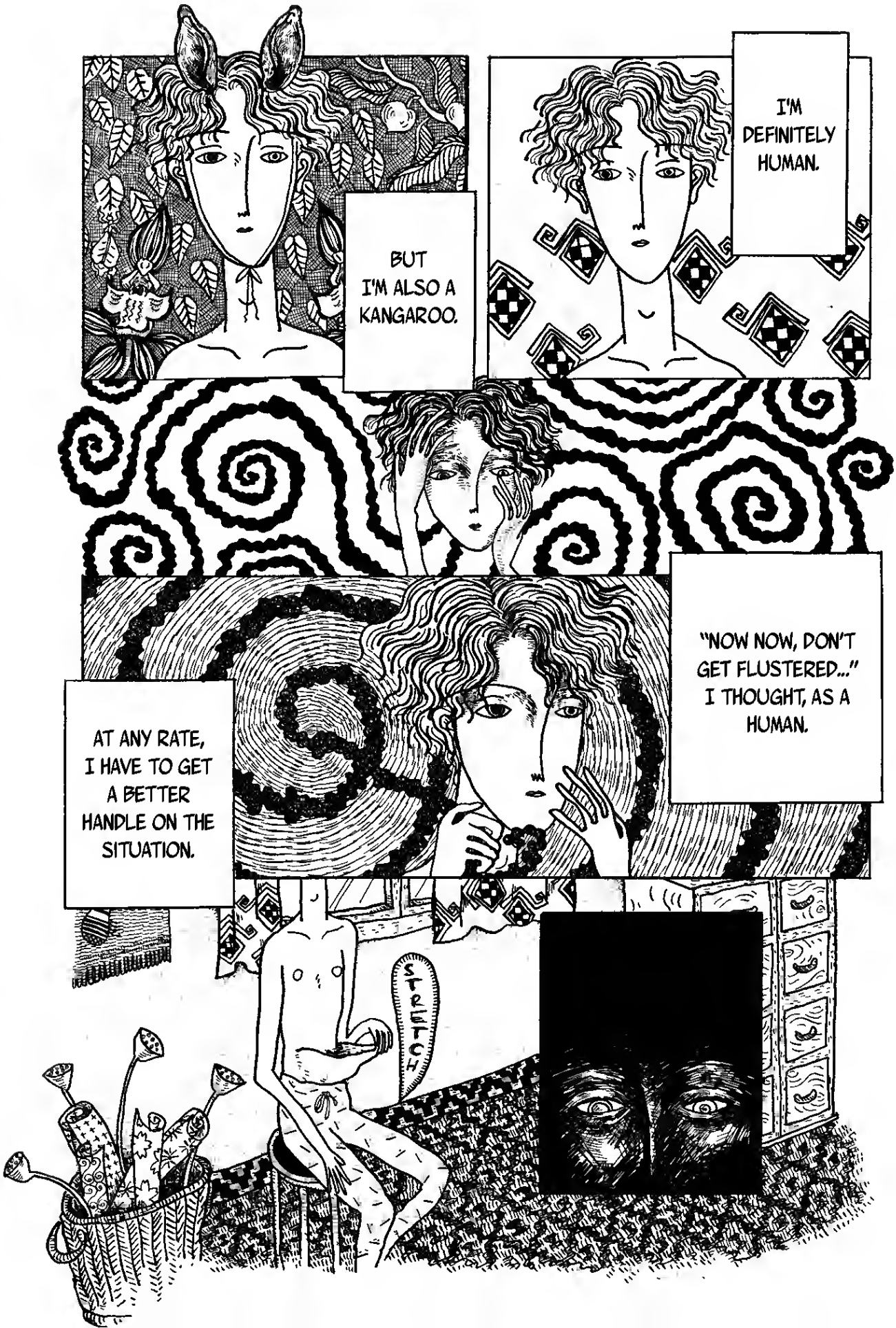
Who was that?
ginger ale
GRAND
An old friend.
OH!
I FELT LIKE I'D REMEMBERED SOMETHING.
BUT... WHAT WAS IT...?

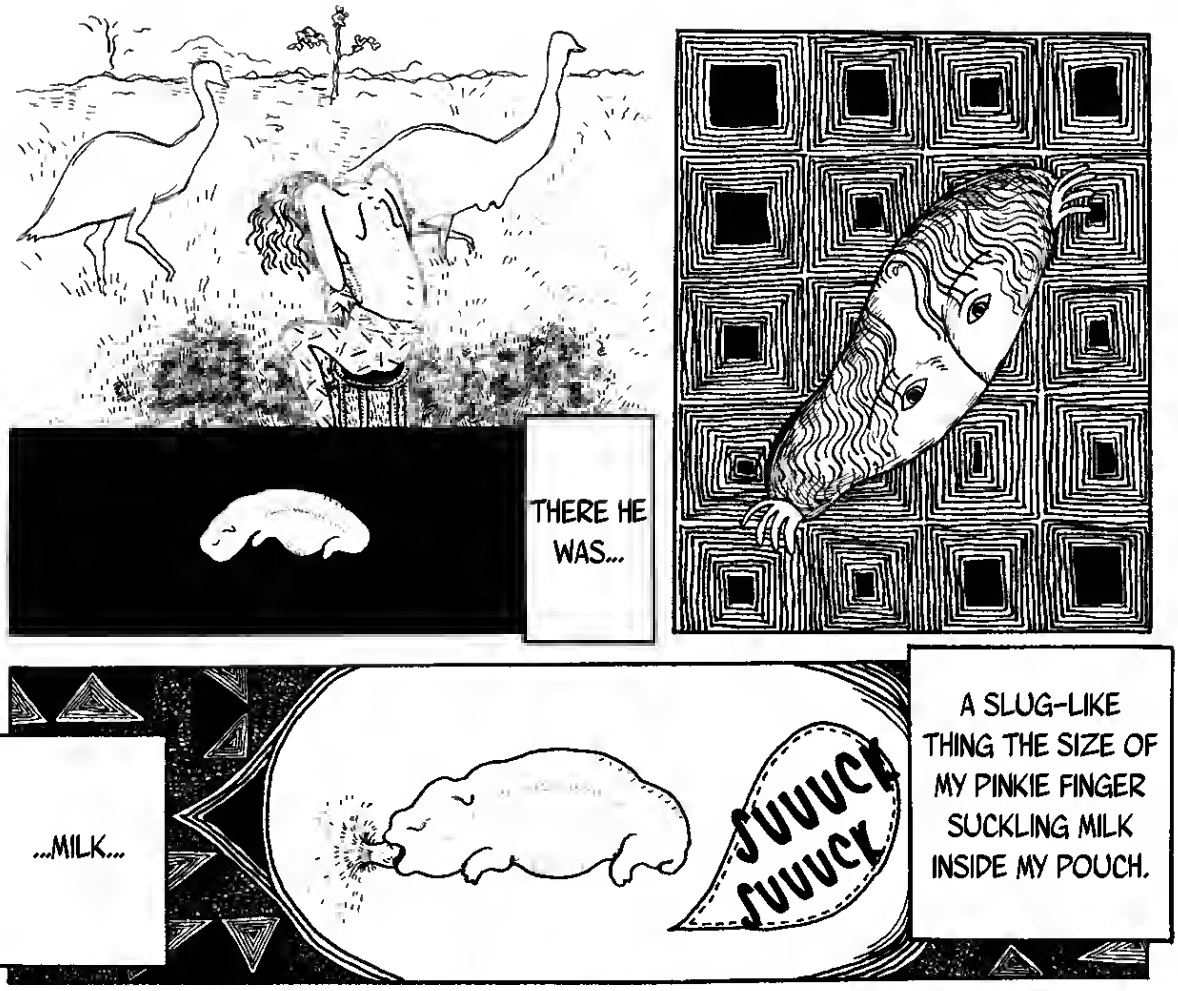
The End

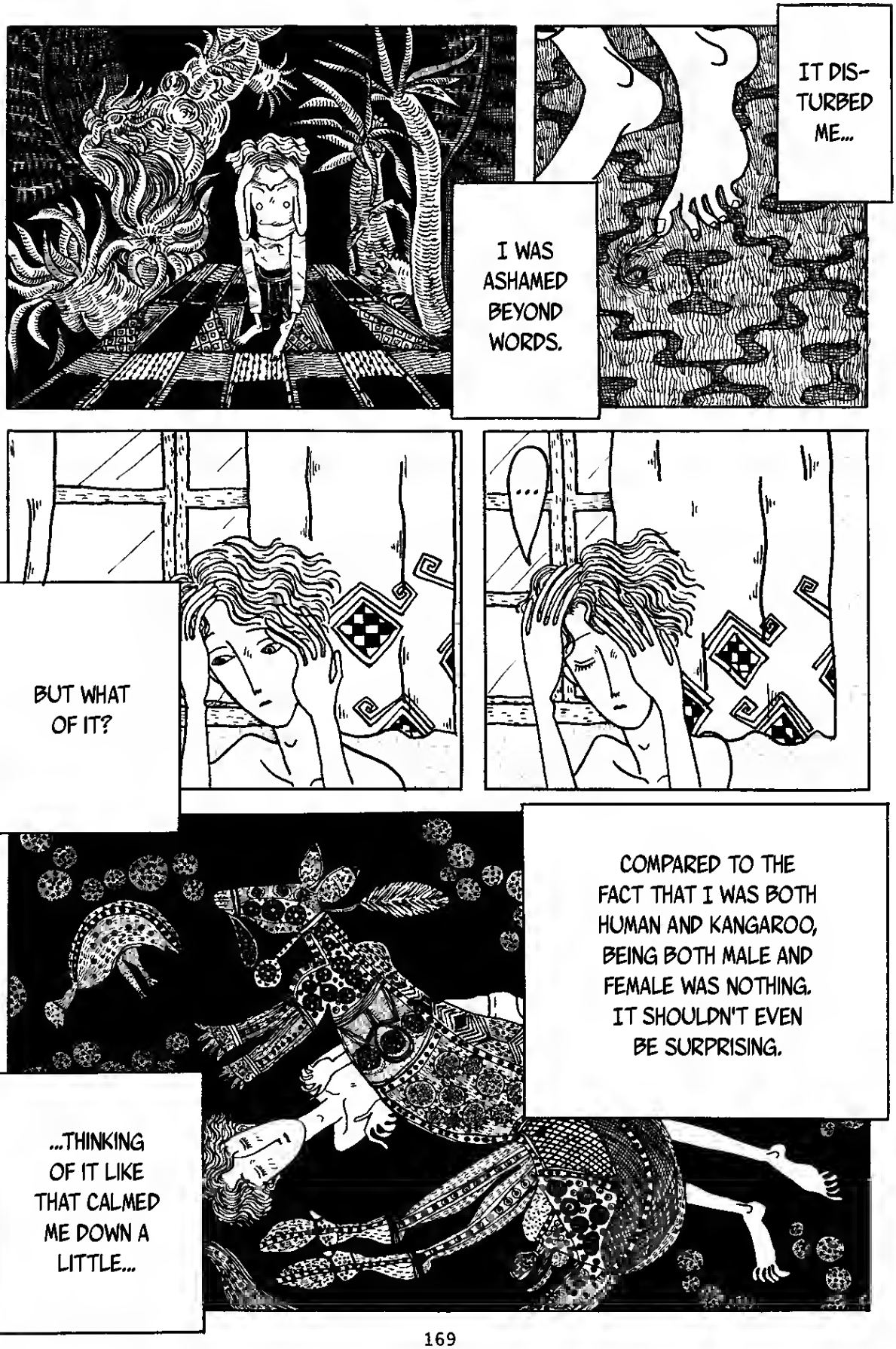
The Kangaroo's Descendant

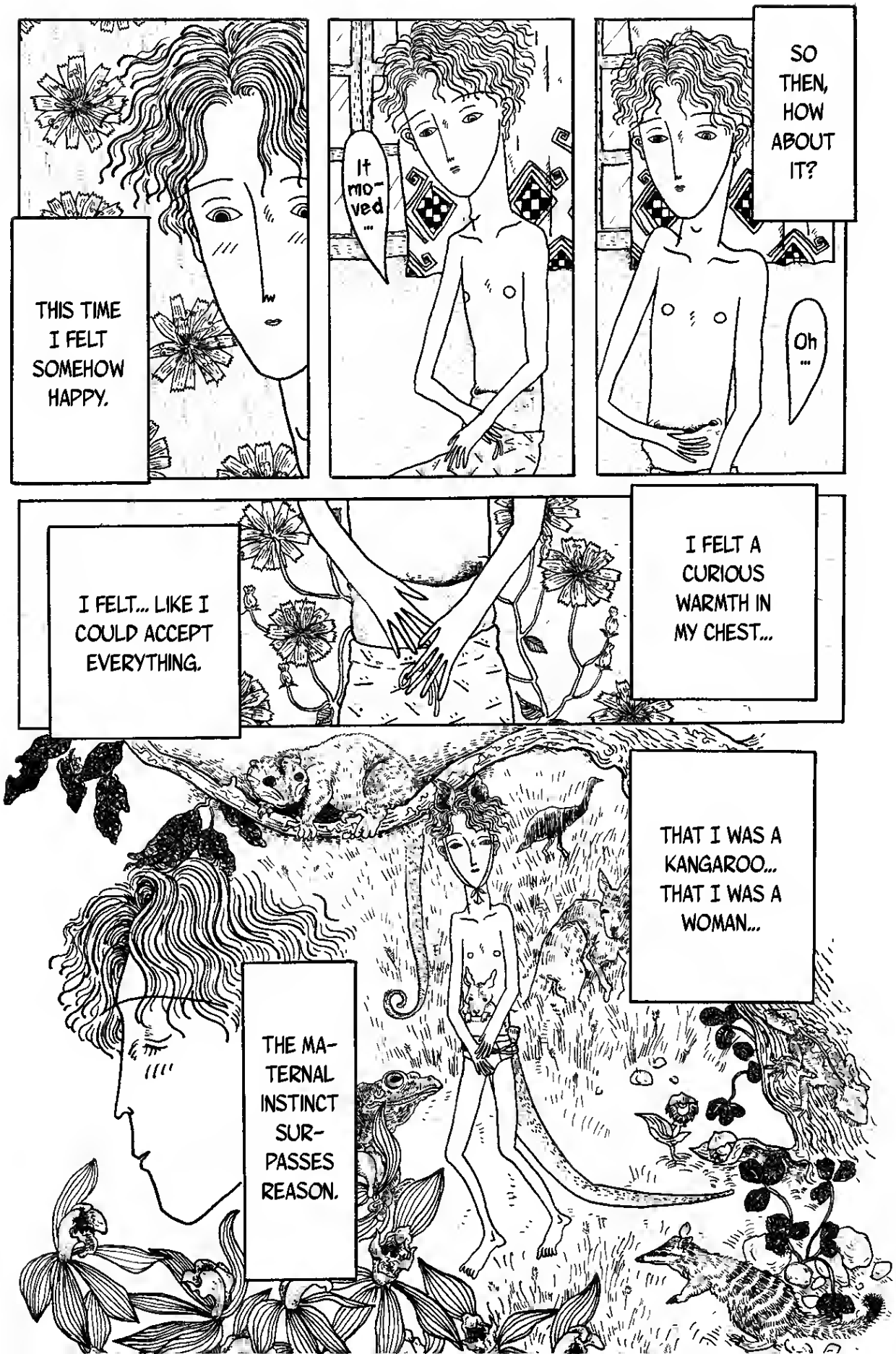


"I MUST BE DESCENDED FROM KANGAROOS," I THOUGHT.
THERE MUST BE A KANGAROO SOMEWHERE BACK IN MY FAMILY TREE.
AFTER ALL, THERE'S NO OTHER EXPLANATION.
Oh my ...
THIS ISN'T GOOD.


BUT I'M ALSO A KANGAROO.
I'M DEFINITELY HUMAN.
"NOW NOW, DON'T GET FLUSTERED..." I THOUGHT, AS A HUMAN.
AT ANY RATE, I HAVE TO GET A BETTER HANDLE ON THE SITUATION.
STRETCH


THERE HE WAS...
...MILK...
SUUUCK SUUUCK
A SLUG-LIKE THING THE SIZE OF MY PINKIE FINGER SUCKLING MILK INSIDE MY POUCH.
I...
AM FEMALE...
THIS REALLY ISN'T GOOD.
A double punch.

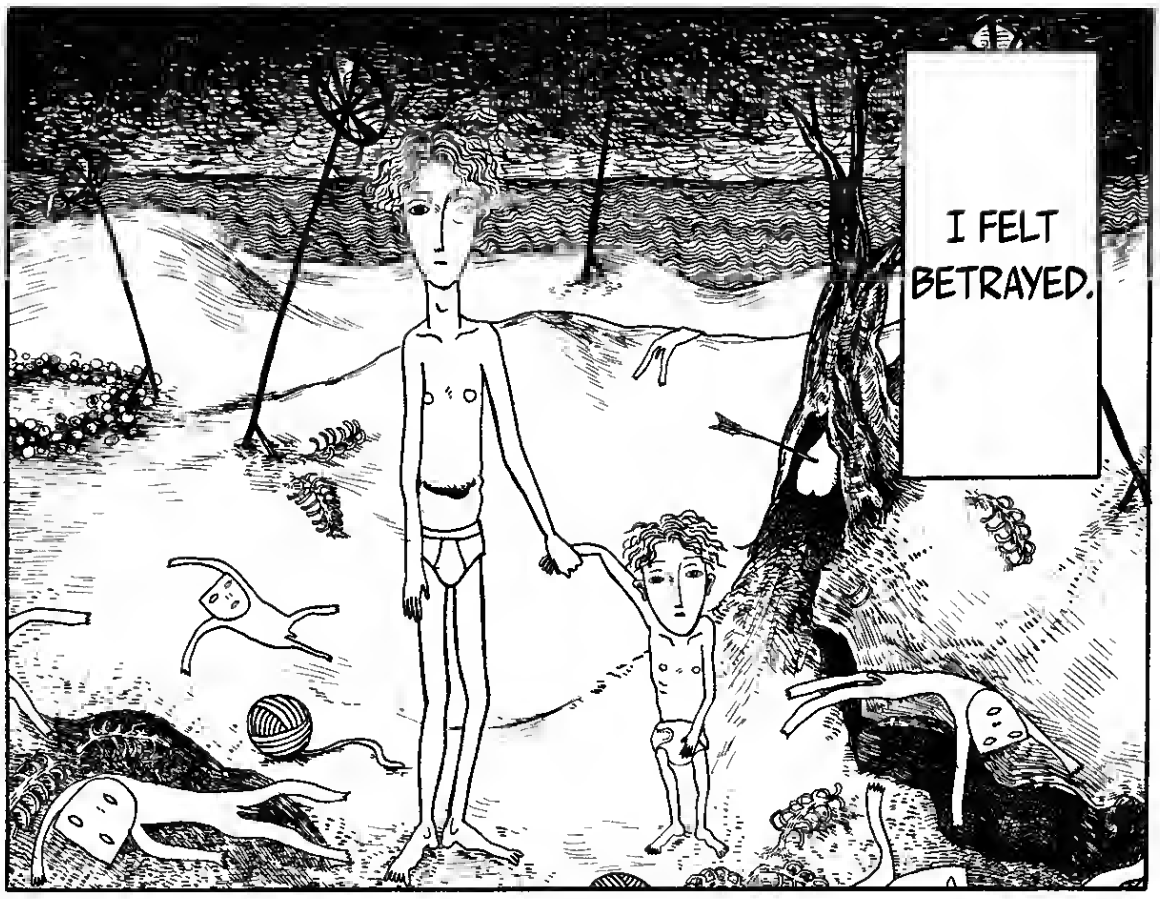

I WAS ASHAMED BEYOND WORDS.
IT DIS-TURBED ME...
BUT WHAT OF IT?
...
COMPARED TO THE FACT THAT I WAS BOTH HUMAN AND KANGAROO, BEING BOTH MALE AND FEMALE WAS NOTHING. IT SHOULDN'T EVEN BE SURPRISING.
...THINKING OF IT LIKE THAT CALMED ME DOWN A LITTLE...

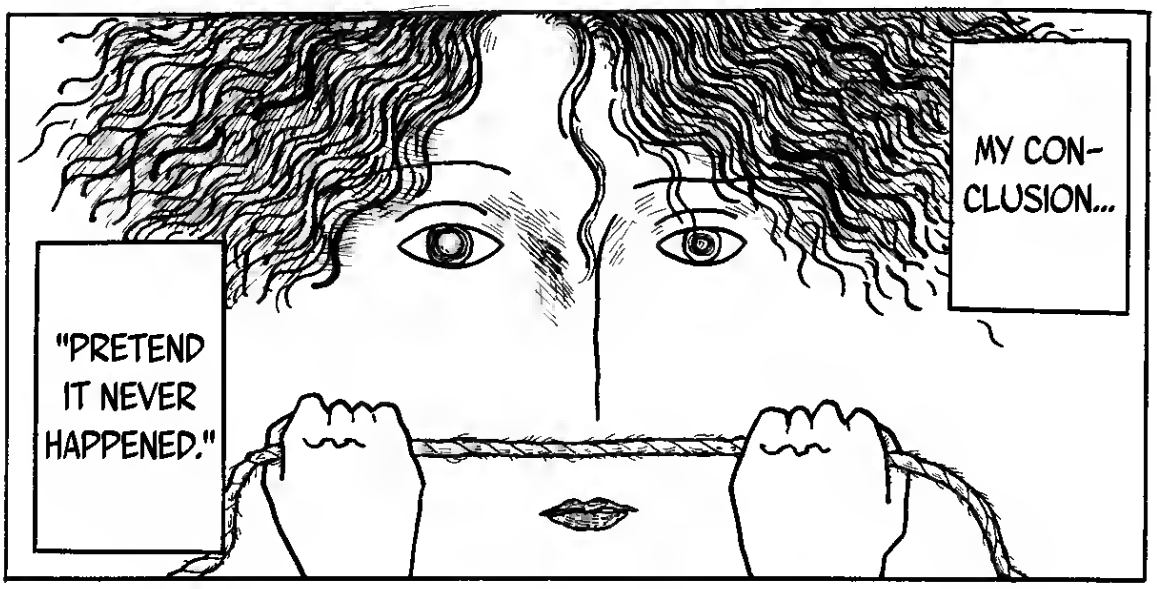

THIS TIME I FELT SOMEHOW HAPPY.
It moved...
SO THEN, HOW ABOUT IT?
Oh...
I FELT A CURIOUS WARMTH IN MY CHEST...
I FELT... LIKE I COULD ACCEPT EVERYTHING.
THAT I WAS A KANGAROO... THAT I WAS A WOMAN...
THE MATERNAL INSTINCT SURPASSES REASON.

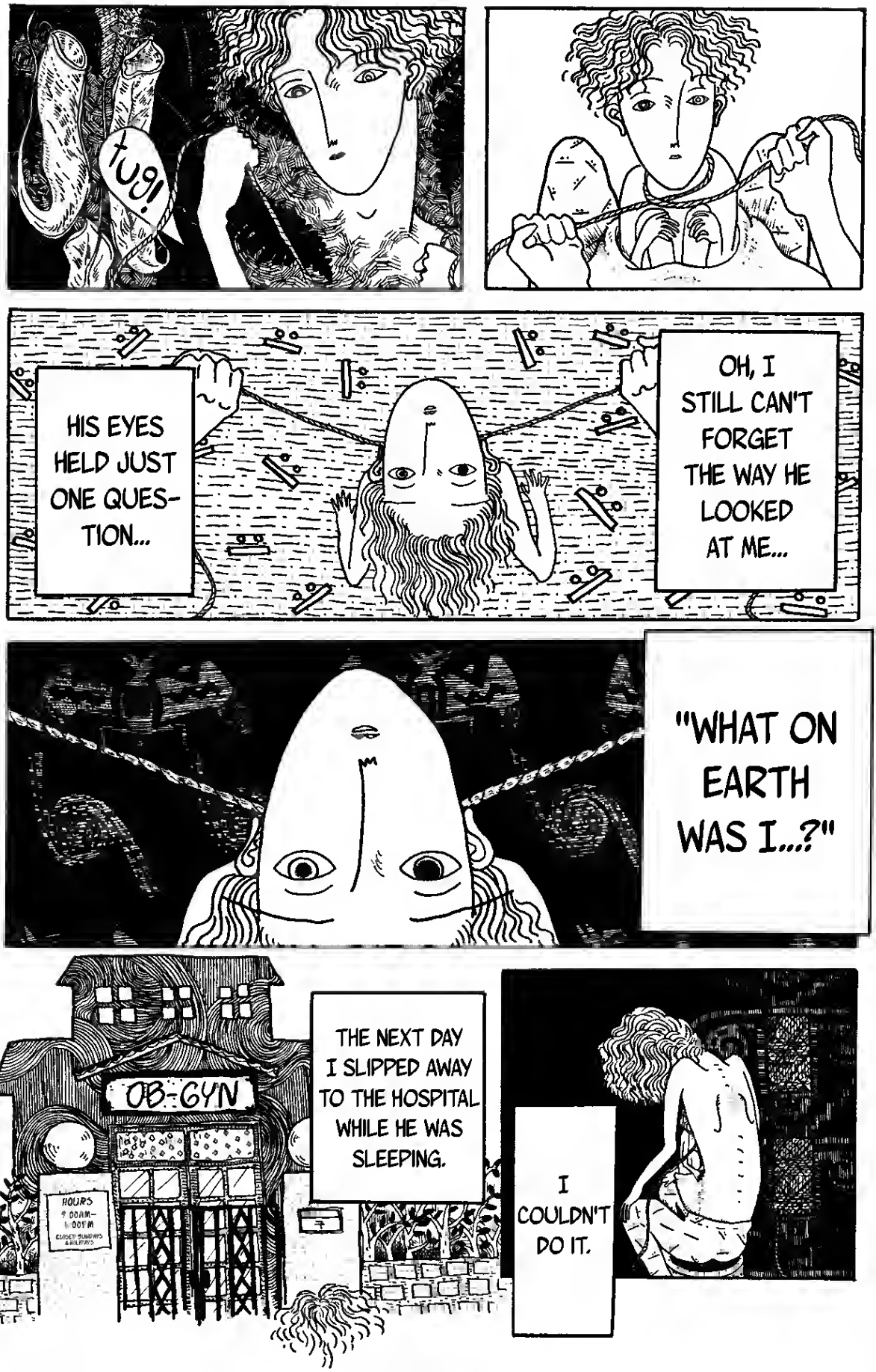
AS THE DAYS PASSED, MY PREGNANCY PROGRESSED...
BUT THEN SOMETHING UTTERLY UNEXPECTED HAPPENED...

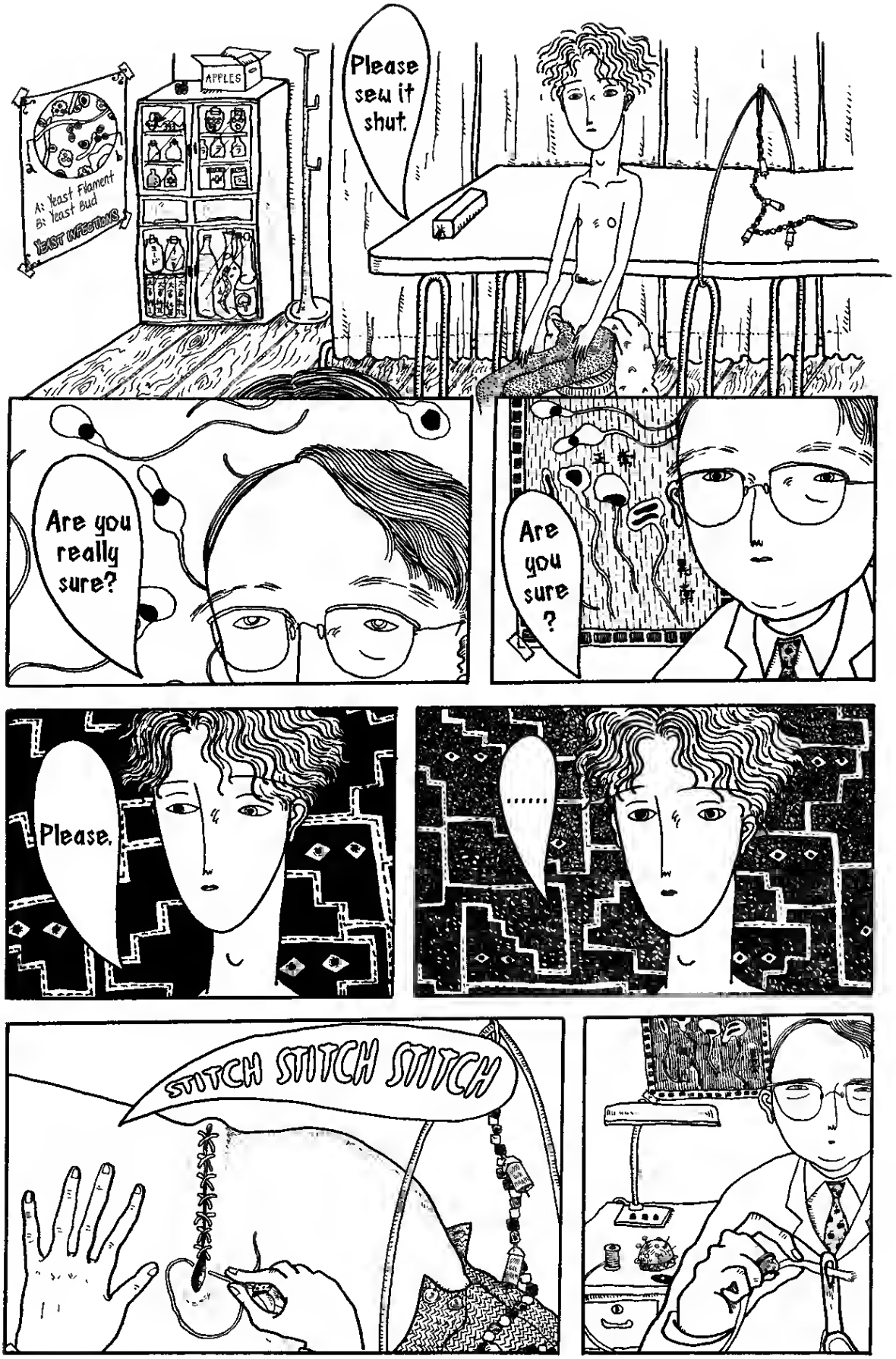
ONE DAY I FELT A GAZE ON MY LOWER JAW.
IT WAS HIM.
I COULDN'T BELIEVE MY EYES...
WHILE I'D BEEN BUSY, HE HAD TURNED INTO A HUMAN.
MY AUSTRALIA DISAPPEARED IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE...

HIS BLUEISH-WHITE FACE WAS LIFE-LESS...
WHAT AN UGLY CHILD.
HIS MOUTH HAD A COWARDLY DOWNWARD TURN.
HE LOOKED LIKE AN OLD MAN...
NO, HE LOOKED DEAD.
I HATED HIM...
I DIDN'T WANT TO ACCEPT IT.
IT MADE ME SO ANGRY...

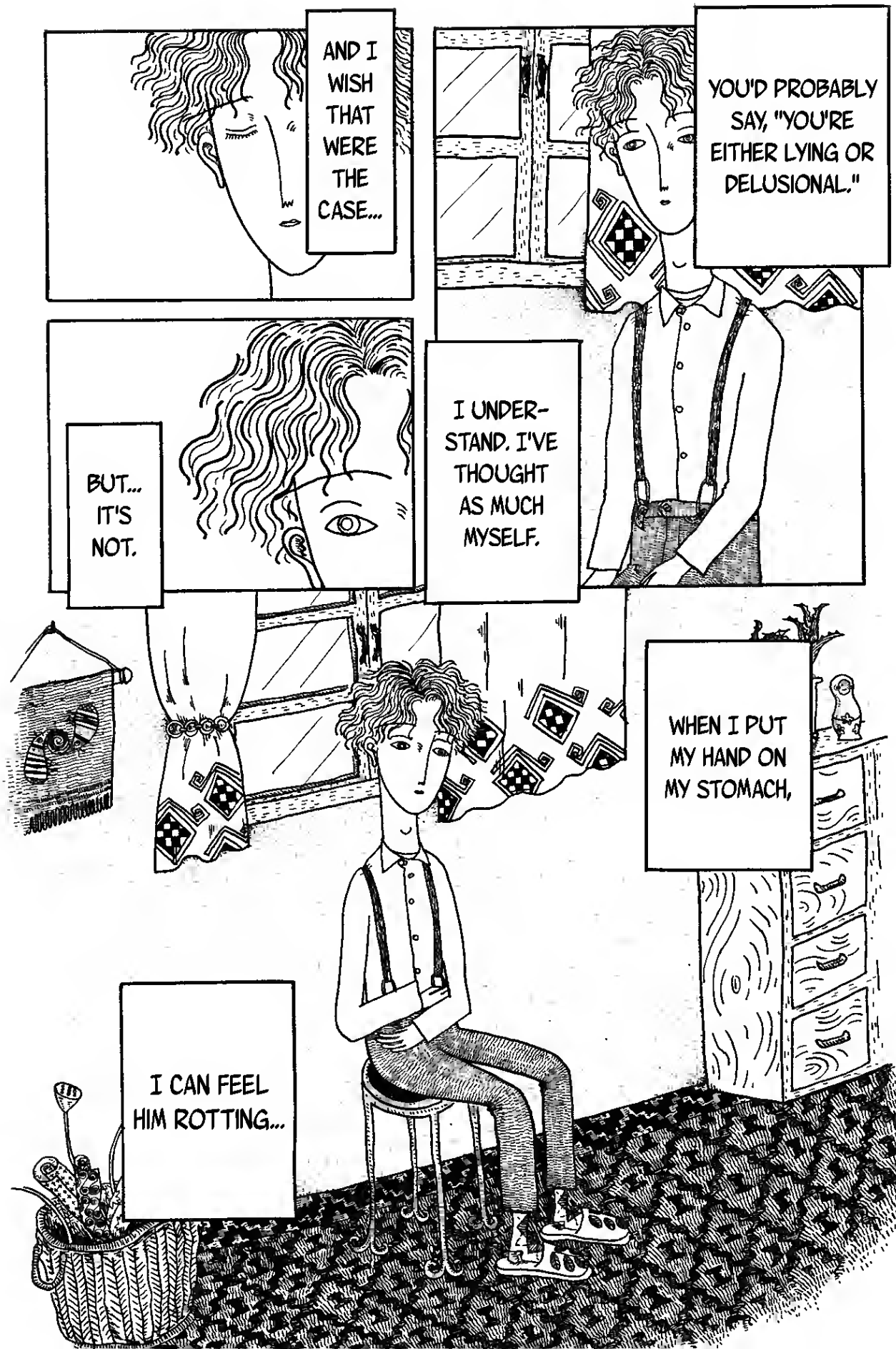

I FELT BETRAYED.


MY CON-CLUSION...
"PRETEND IT NEVER HAPPENED."


tug!
HIS EYES HELD JUST ONE QUESTION...
OH, I STILL CAN'T FORGET THE WAY HE LOOKED AT ME...
"WHAT ON EARTH WAS I...?"
OB-GYN
HOURS
THE NEXT DAY I SLIPPED AWAY TO THE HOSPITAL WHILE HE WAS SLEEPING.
I COULDN'T DO IT.

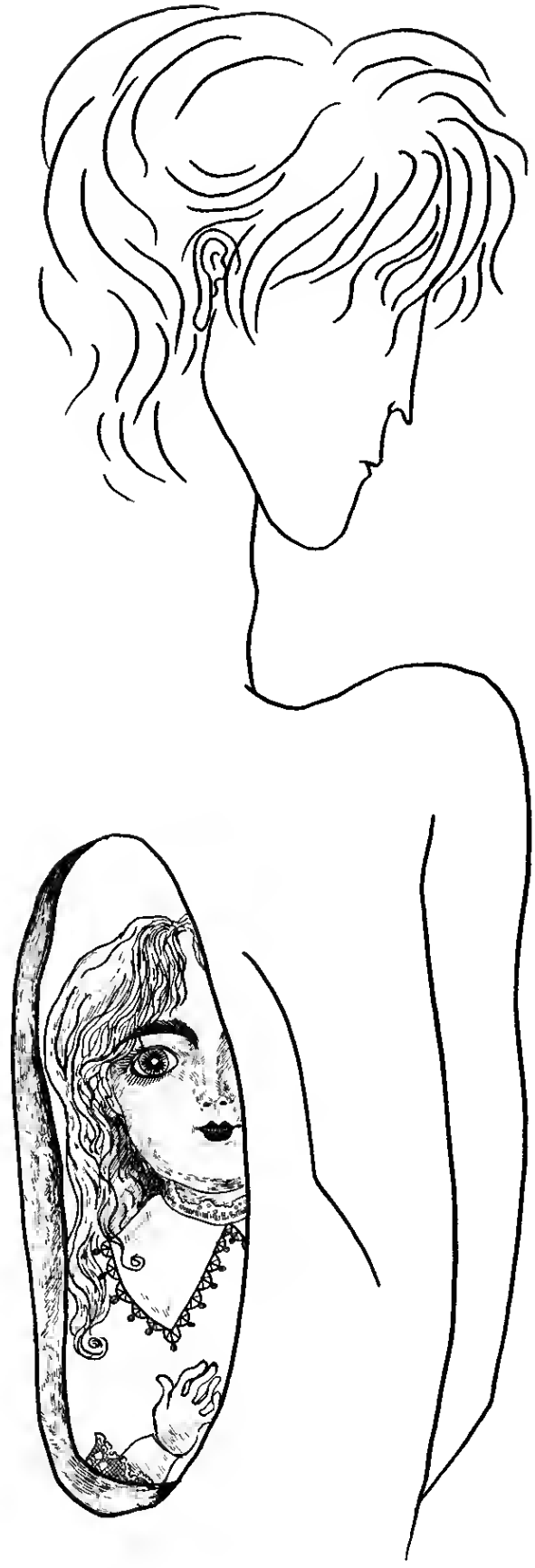

APPLES
A: Yeast Filament
B: Yeast Bud
YEAST INFECTIONS
Please sew it shut.
Are you really sure?
Are you sure?
Please.
.....
STITCH STITCH STITCH

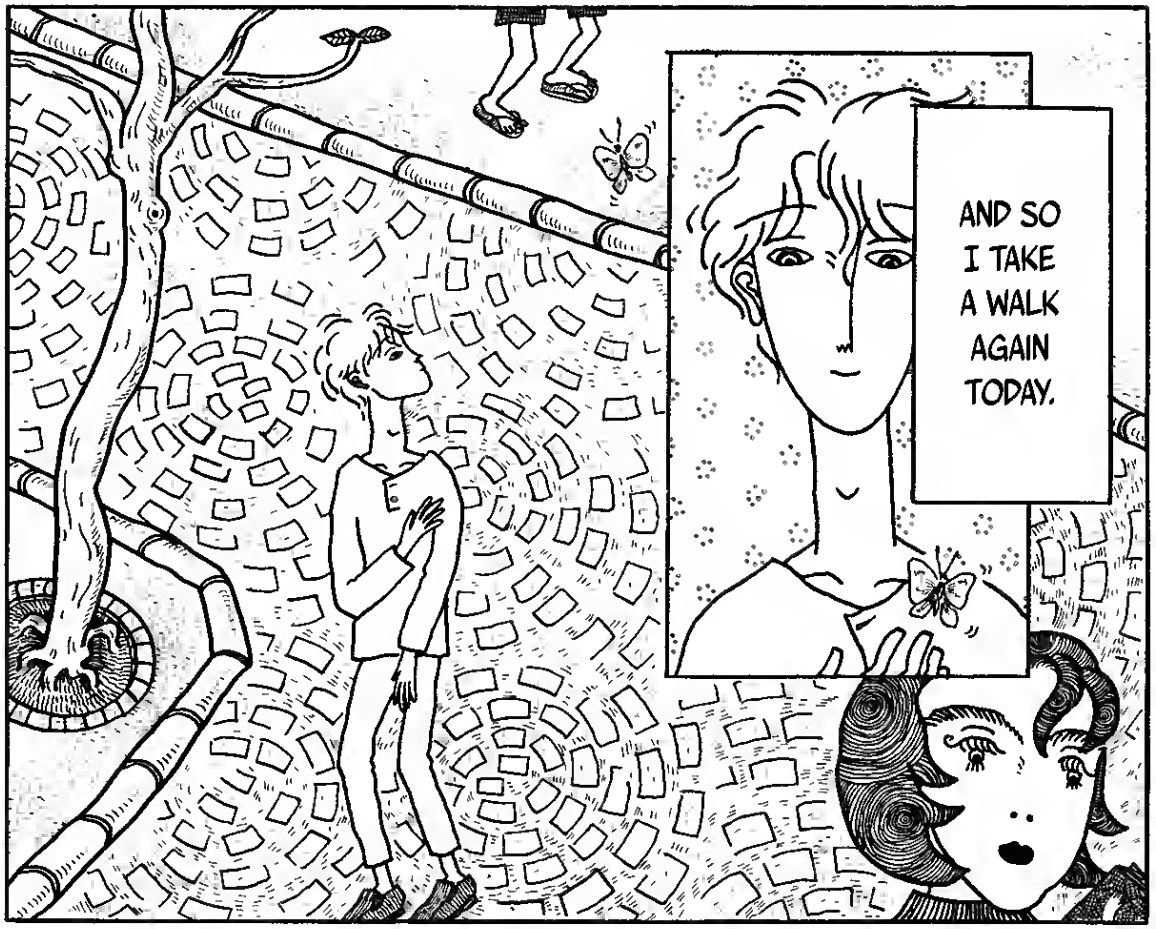
Oh...
Oh, are you awake?
So it seems.
HE STRUGGLED FOR A WHILE...
...BUT EVENTUALLY STOPPED MOVING...
NOW MY DAYS ARE PEACEFUL.
...AND THIS IS WHERE MY STORY ENDS.

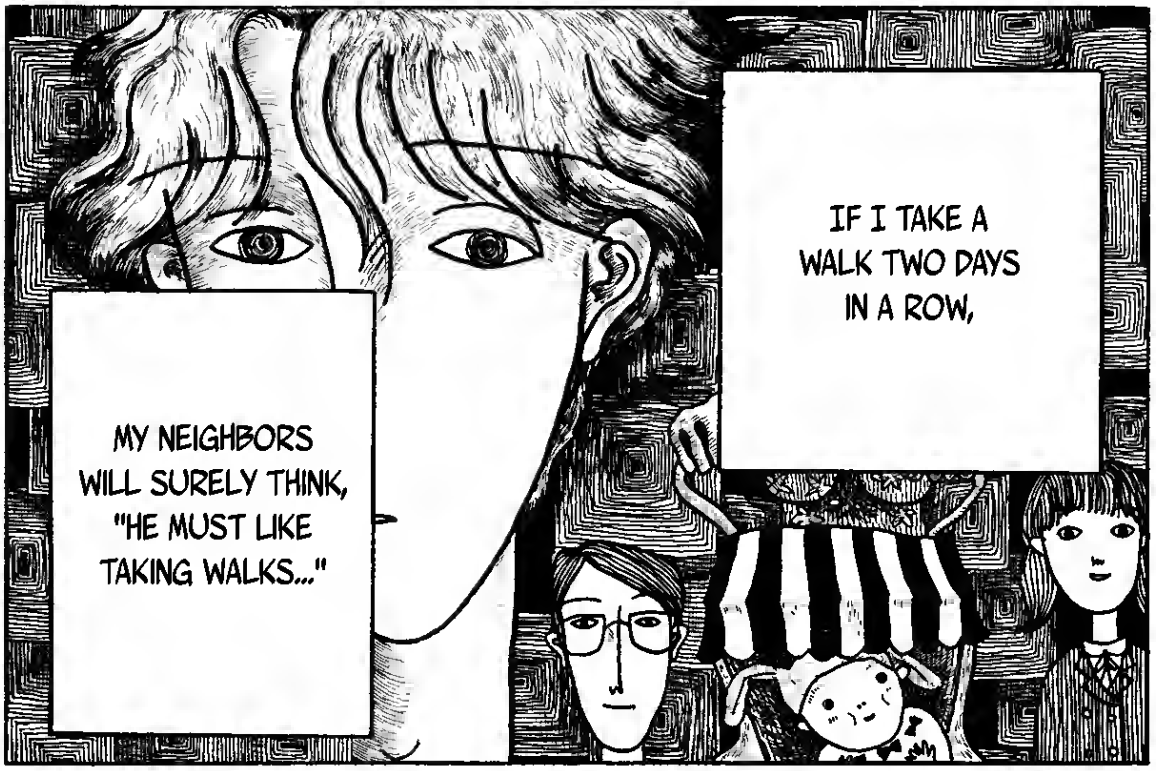

AND I WISH THAT WERE THE CASE...
YOU'D PROBABLY SAY, "YOU'RE EITHER LYING OR DELUSIONAL."
BUT... IT'S NOT.
I UNDER-STAND. I'VE THOUGHT AS MUCH MYSELF.
WHEN I PUT MY HAND ON MY STOMACH,
I CAN FEEL HIM ROTTING...

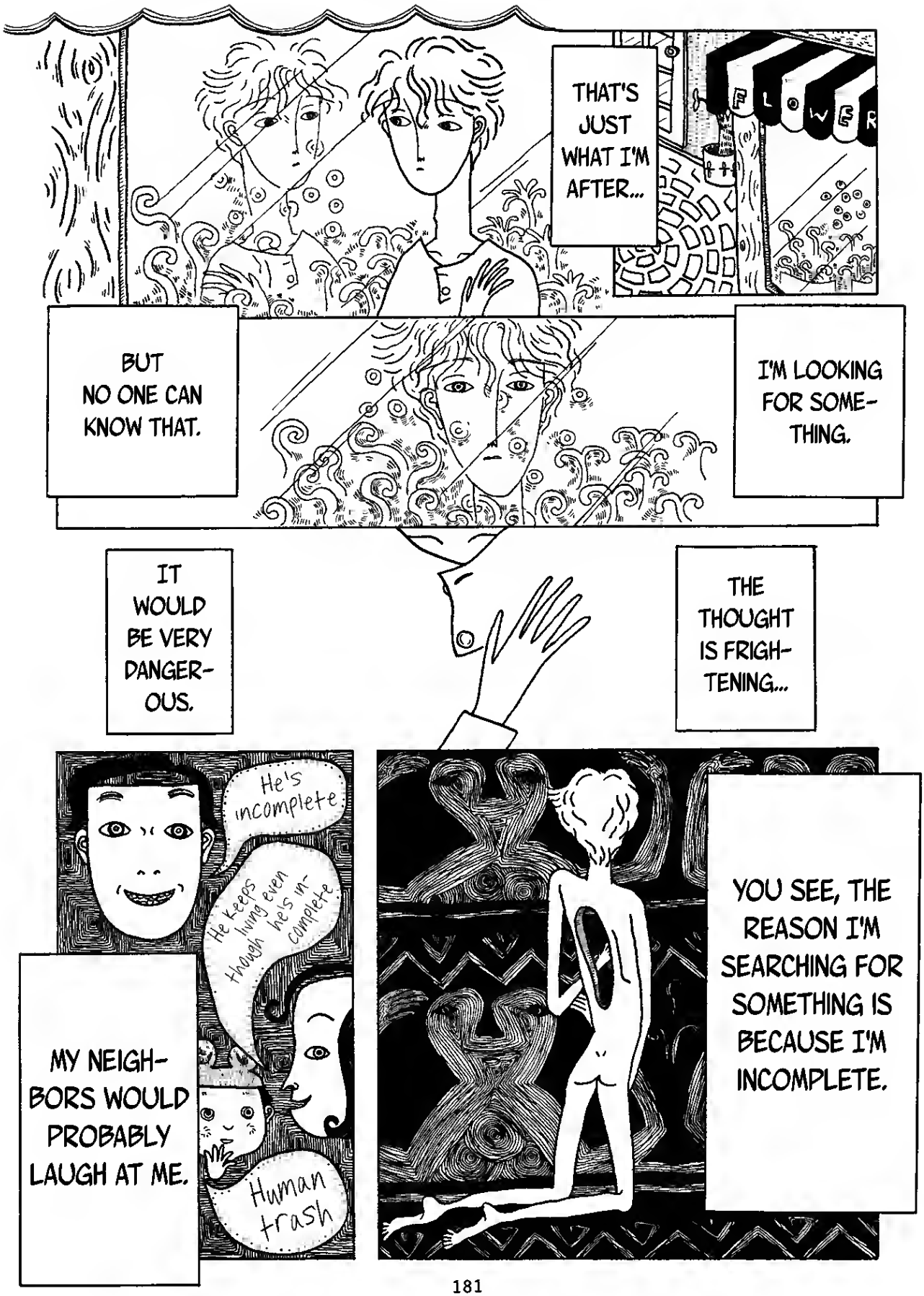
SINNER

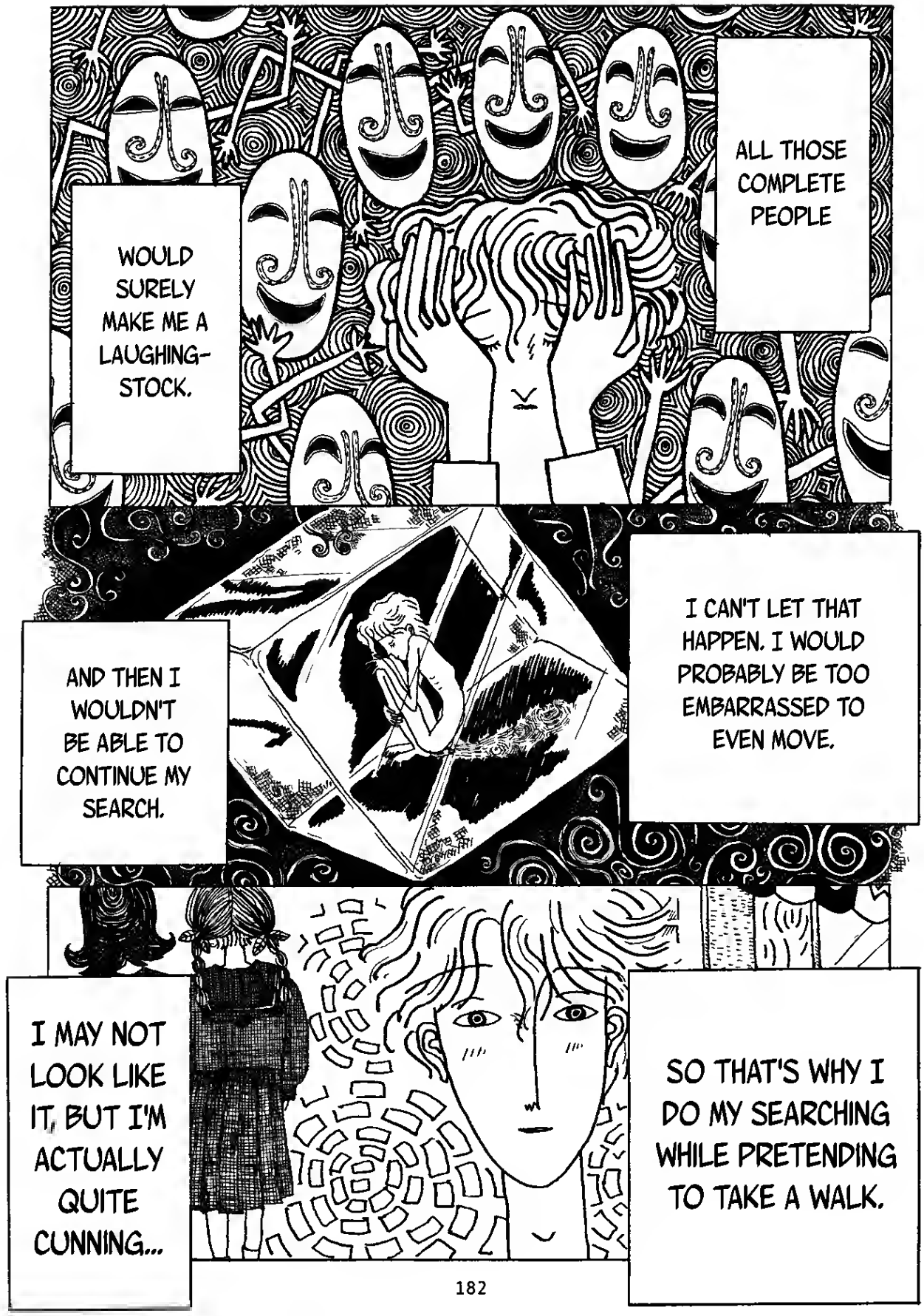
(Original Title: I Don't Want You to Judge Me)

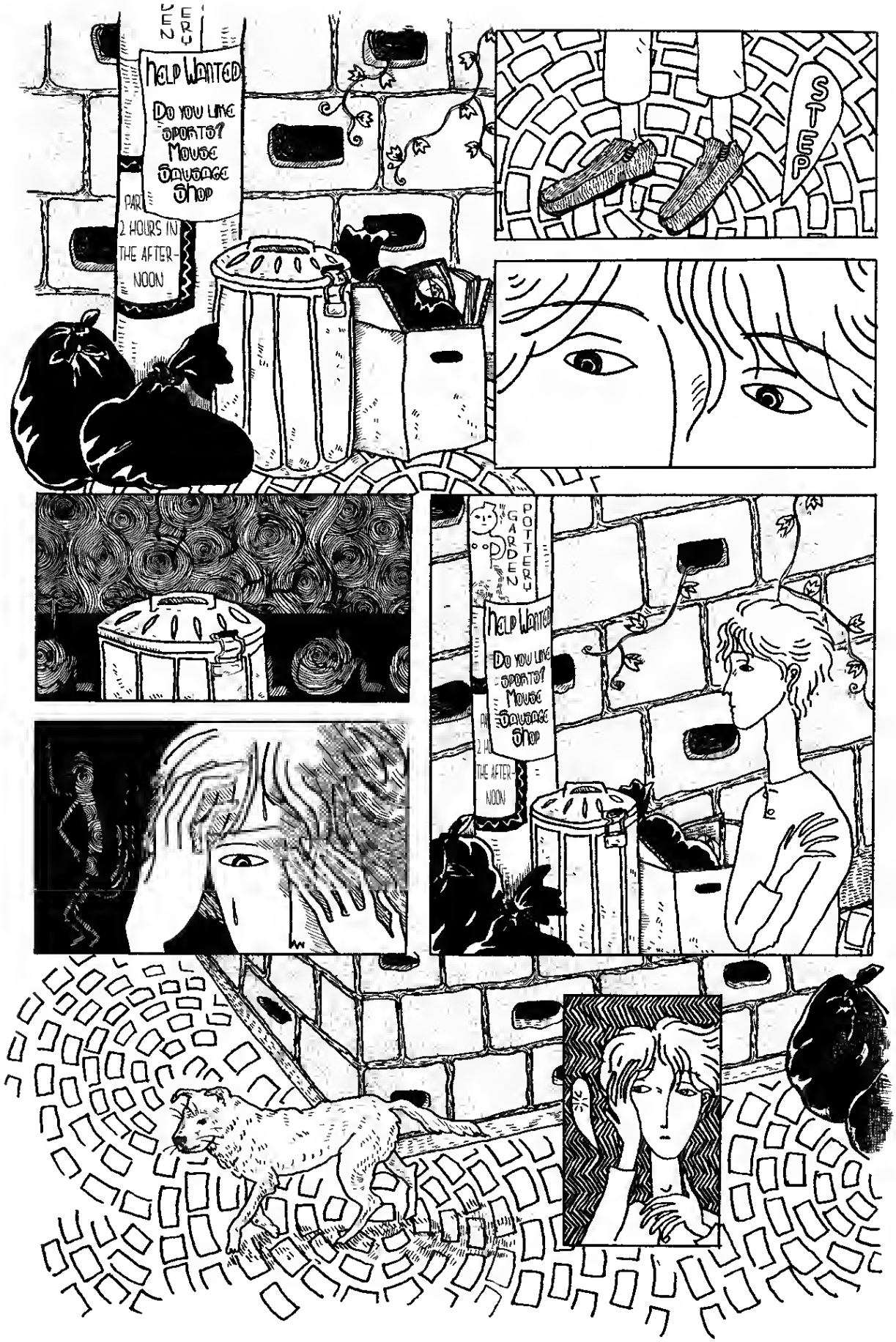


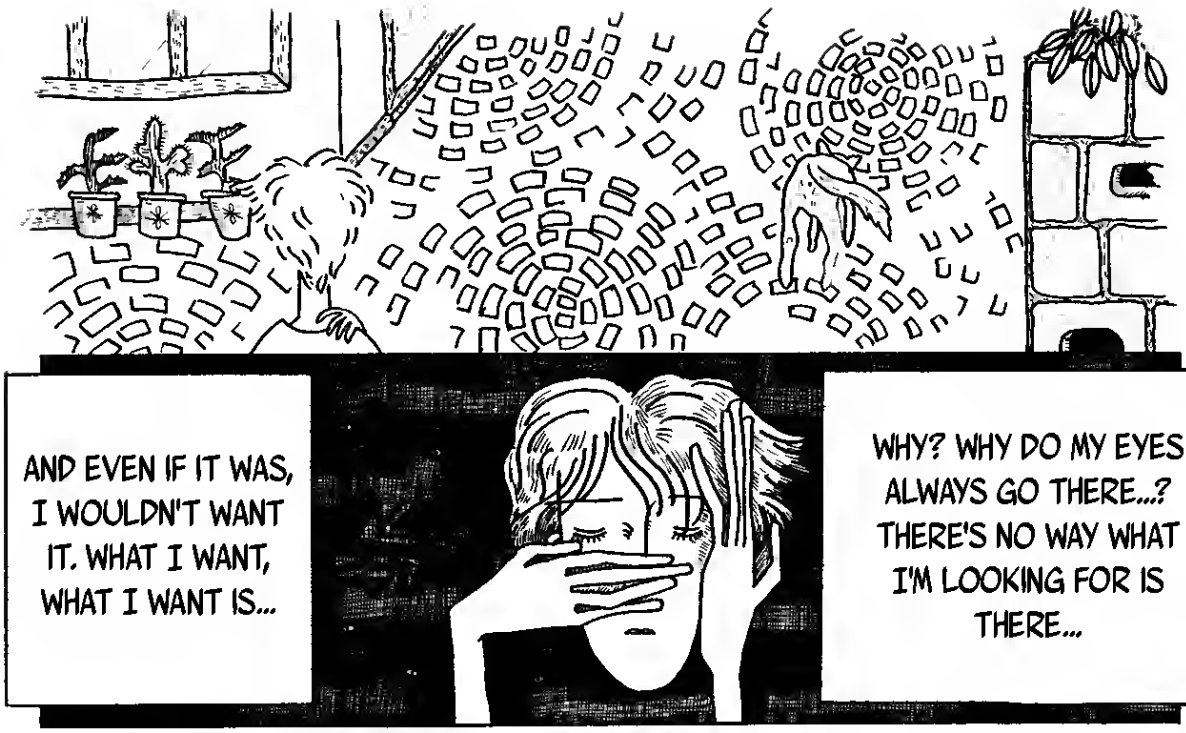

AND SO I TAKE A WALK AGAIN TODAY.

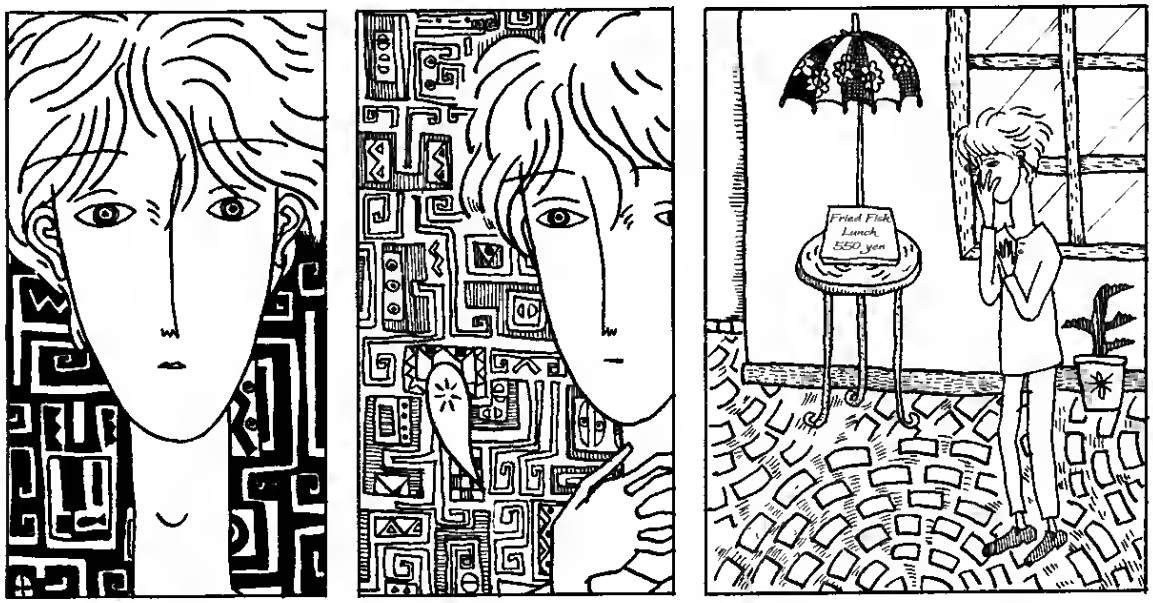

IF I TAKE A WALK TWO DAYS IN A ROW,
MY NEIGHBORS WILL SURELY THINK, "HE MUST LIKE TAKING WALKS..."

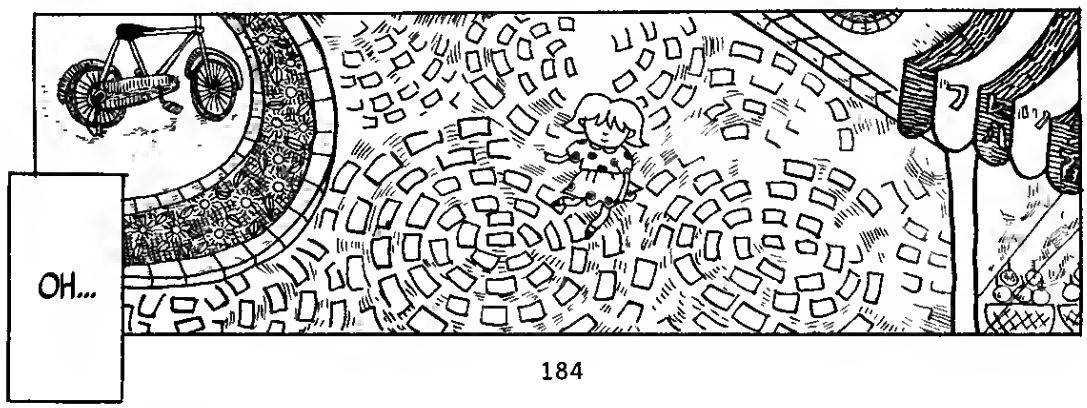

THAT'S JUST WHAT I'M AFTER...
FLOWER
BUT NO ONE CAN KNOW THAT.
I'M LOOKING FOR SOMETHING.
IT WOULD BE VERY DANGEROUS.
THE THOUGHT IS FRIGHTENING...
He's incomplete.
He keeps living even though he's incomplete.
Human trash
MY NEIGHBORS WOULD PROBABLY LAUGH AT ME.
YOU SEE, THE REASON I'M SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING IS BECAUSE I'M INCOMPLETE.

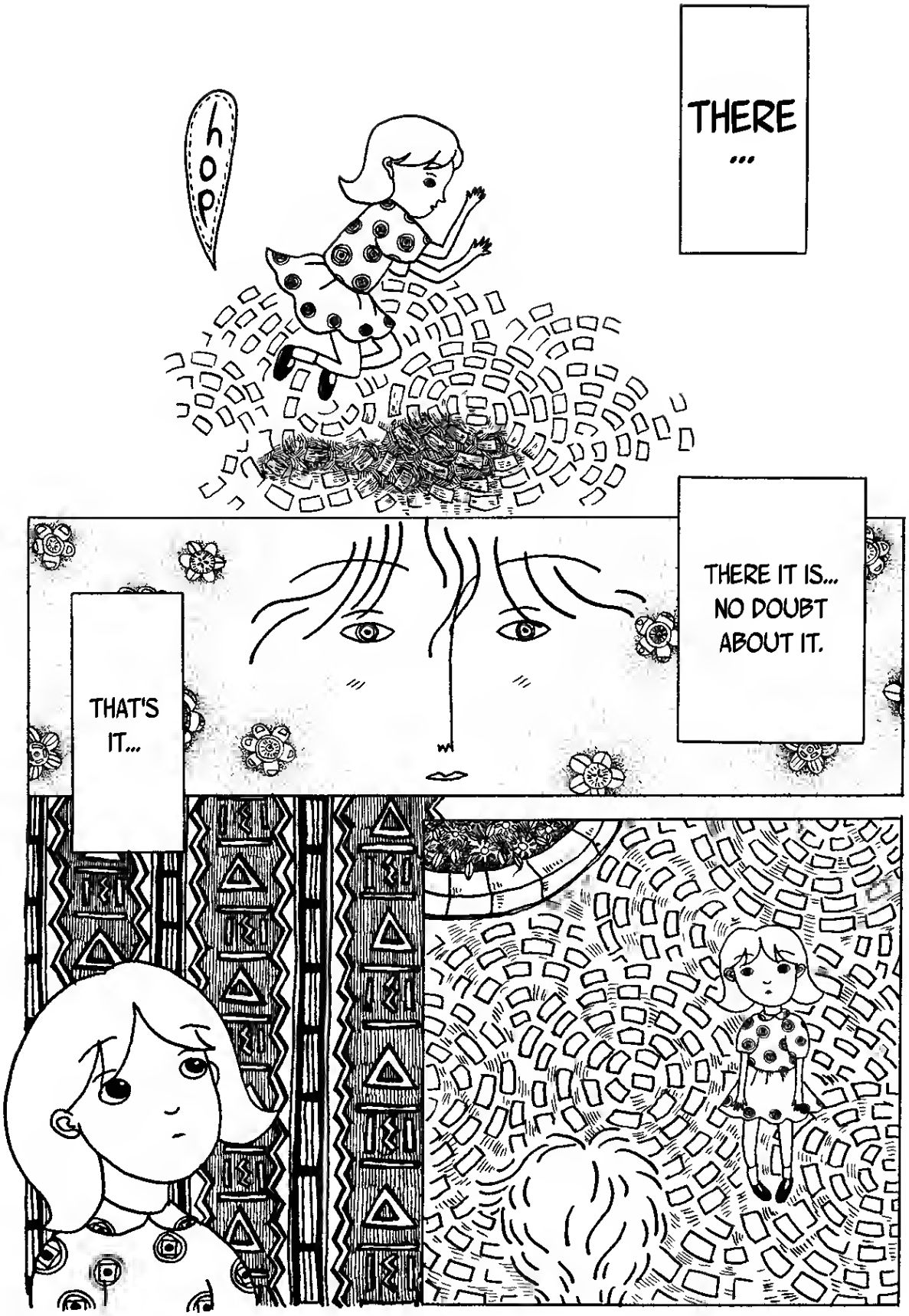

ALL THOSE COMPLETE PEOPLE
WOULD SURELY MAKE ME A LAUGHING-STOCK.
I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN. I WOULD PROBABLY BE TOO EMBARRASSED TO EVEN MOVE.
AND THEN I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CONTINUE MY SEARCH.
SO THAT'S WHY I DO MY SEARCHING WHILE PRETENDING TO TAKE A WALK.
I MAY NOT LOOK LIKE IT, BUT I'M ACTUALLY QUITE CUNNING...

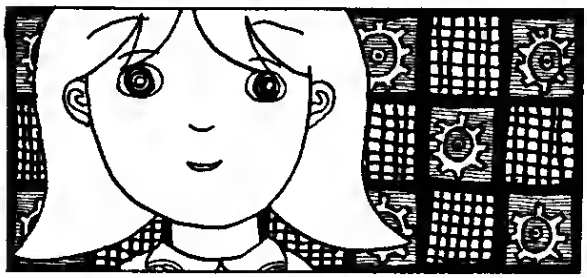

HELP WANTED
DO YOU LIKE SPORTS? MOUSE SAVAGE SHOP
PART
2 HOURS IN THE AFTER-NOON
STEP
POTTERY
GARDEN
HELP WANTED
DO YOU LIKE SPORTS? MOUSE SAVAGE SHOP
THE AFTER-NOON

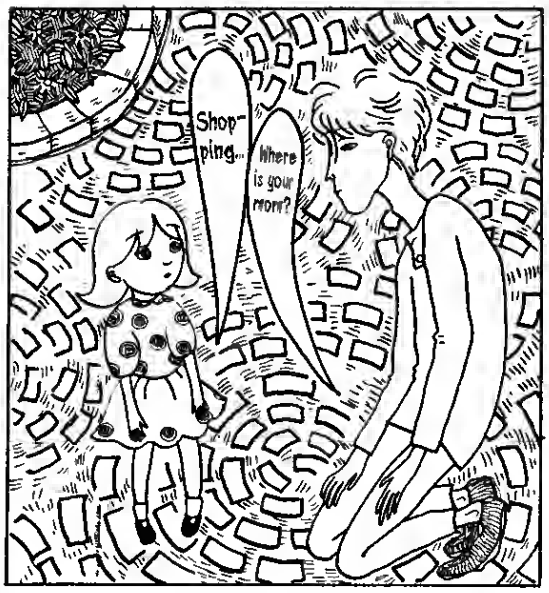

AND EVEN IF IT WAS, I WOULDN'T WANT IT. WHAT I WANT, WHAT I WANT IS...
WHY? WHY DO MY EYES ALWAYS GO THERE...? THERE'S NO WAY WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR IS THERE...


Fried Fish Lunch 550 yen


OH...

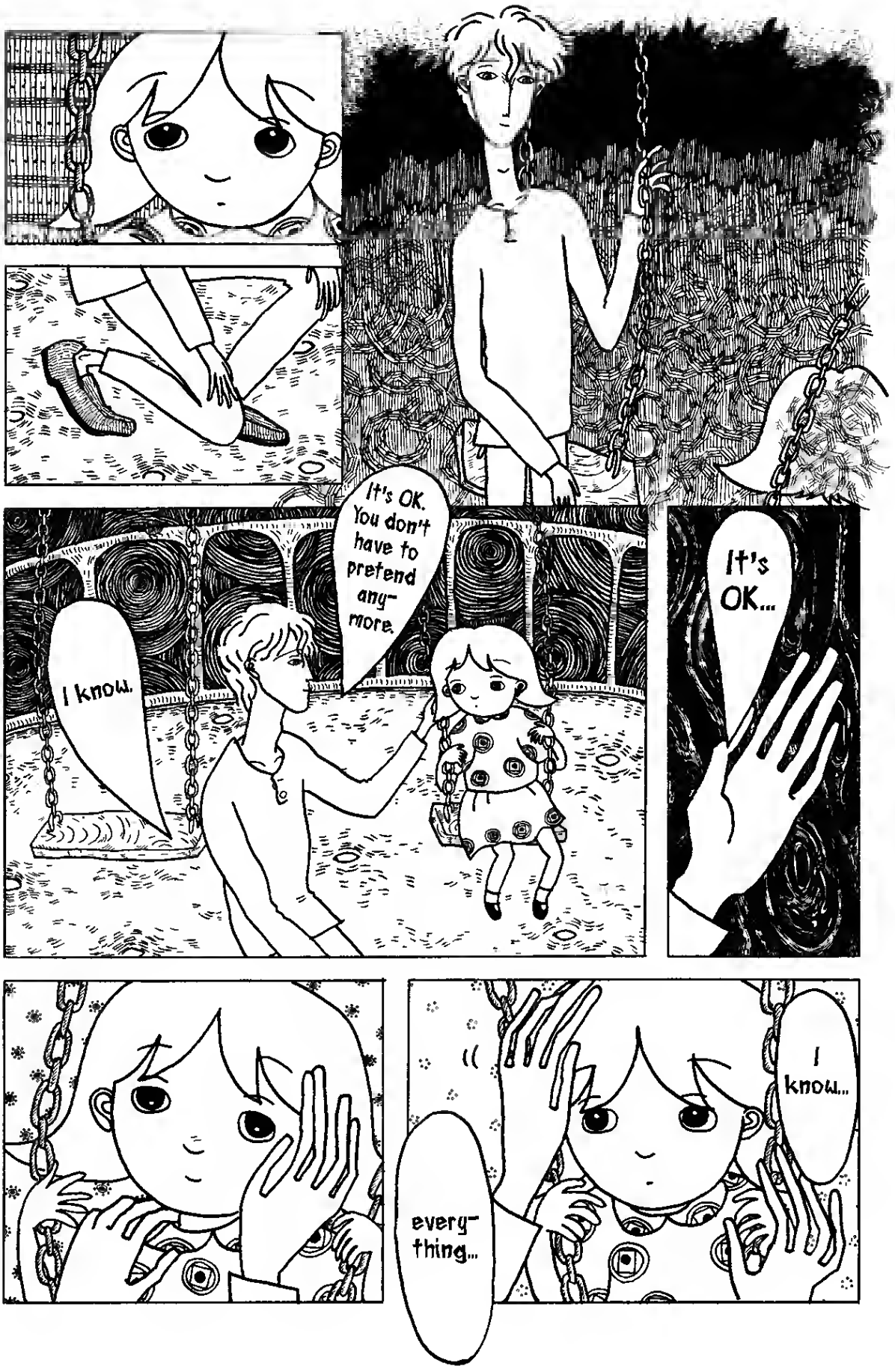

THERE ...
hop
THERE IT IS... NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.
THAT'S IT...

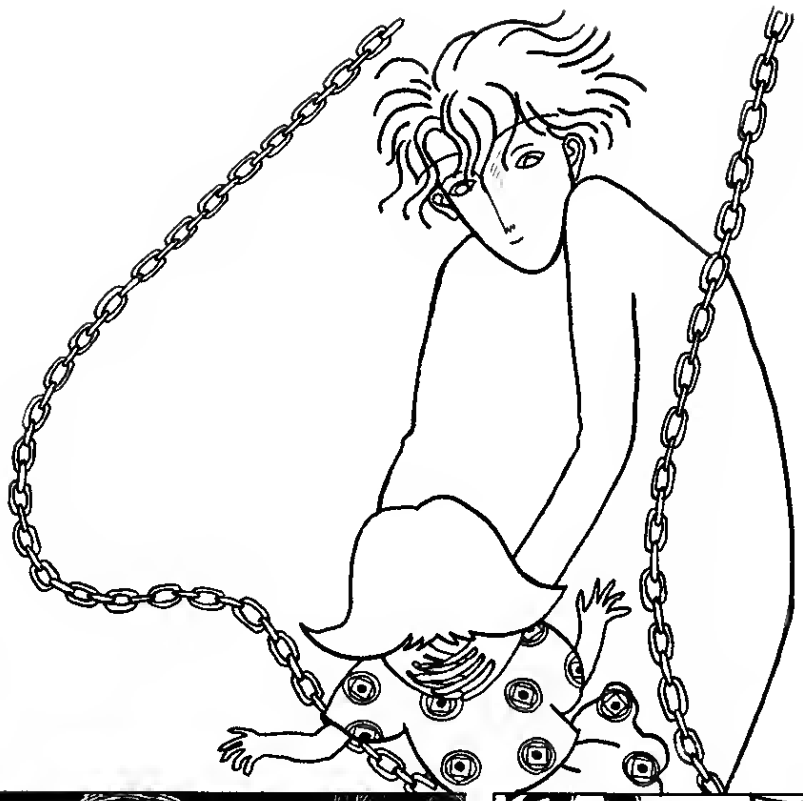


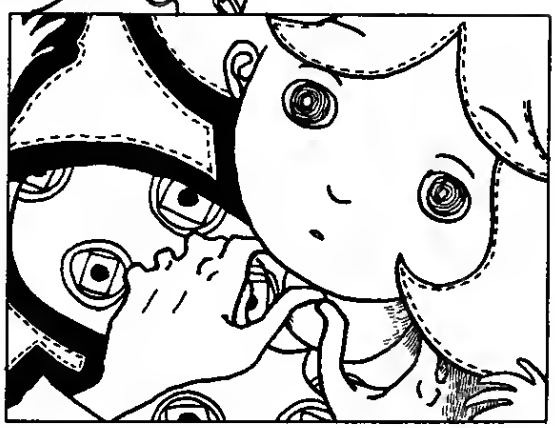


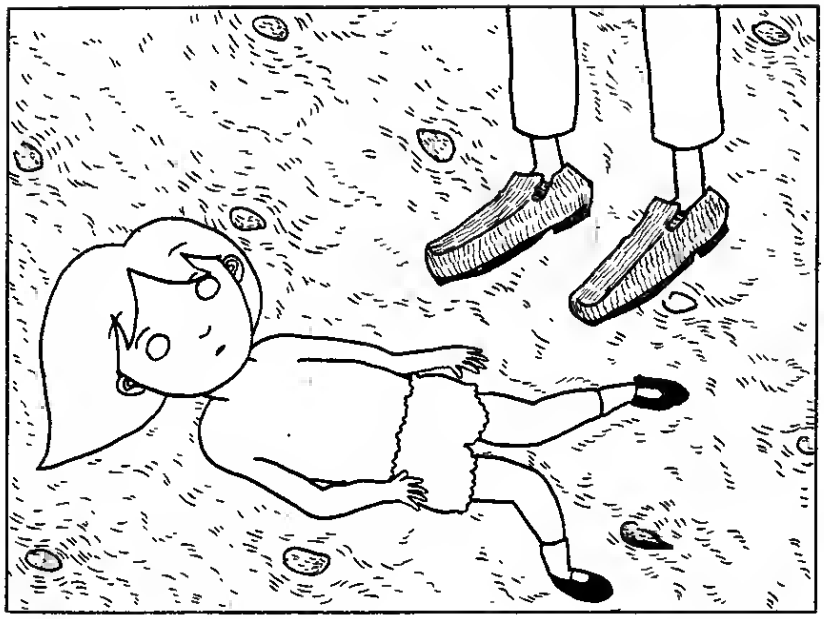
8

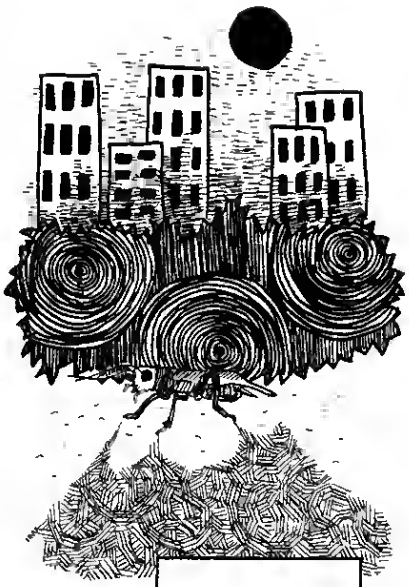
Your mommy will worry, will she...?
If I don't, Mommy will worry.
Oh, you have to go home?
I have to go home.

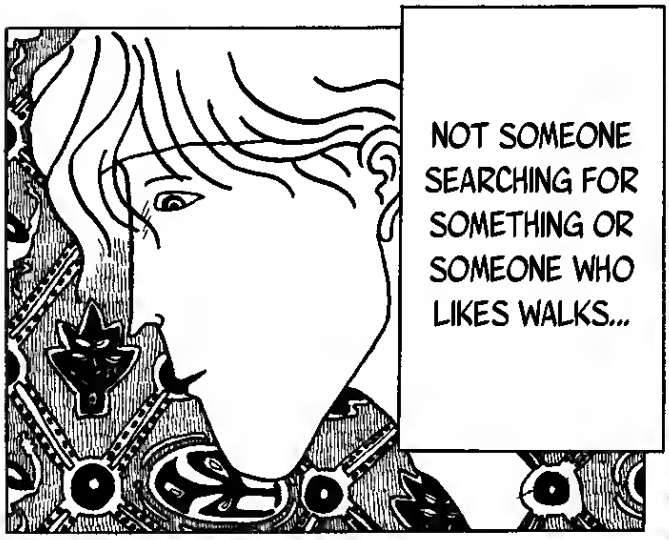

It's OK. You don't have to pretend anymore.
I know.
It's OK...
I know...
every-thing...









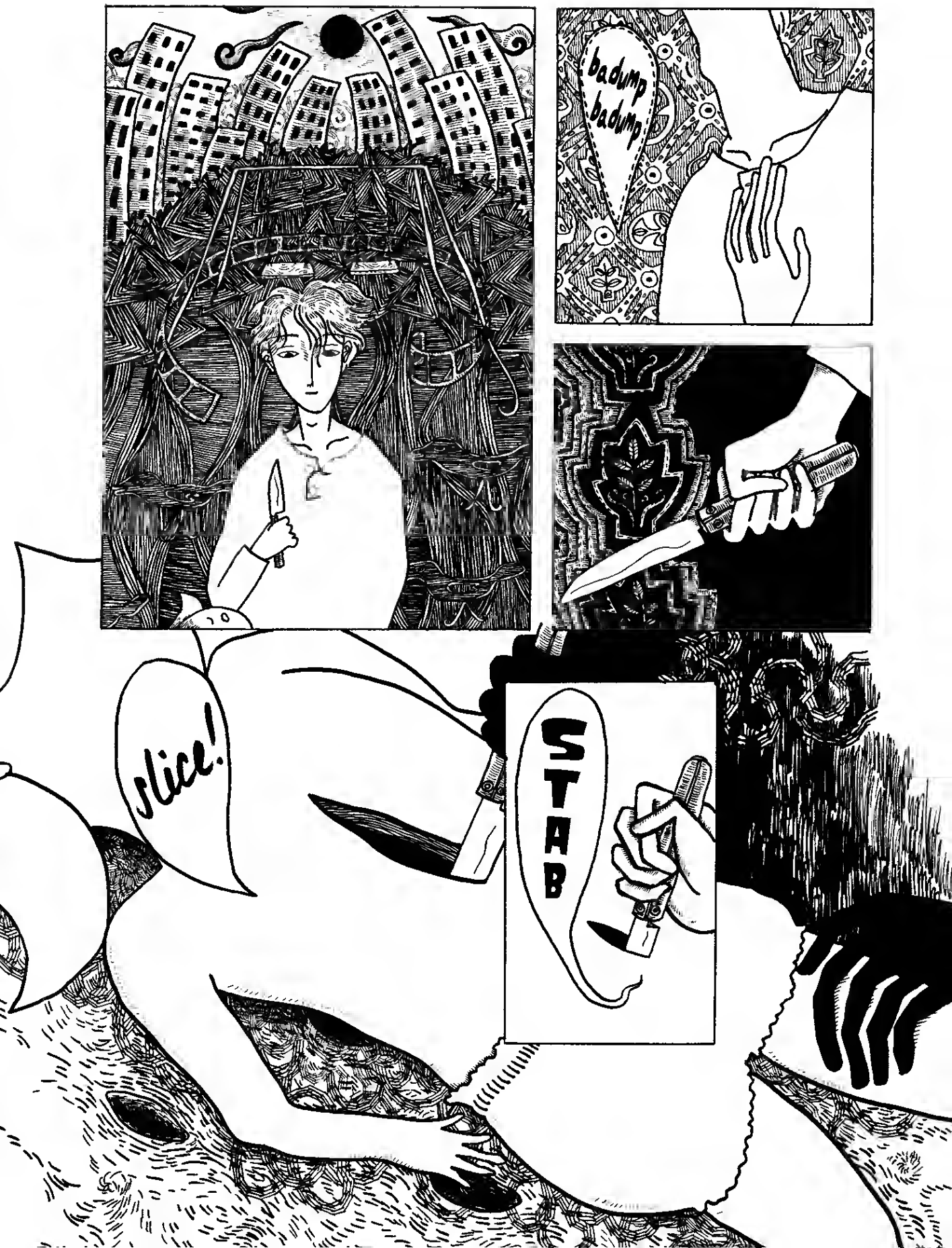


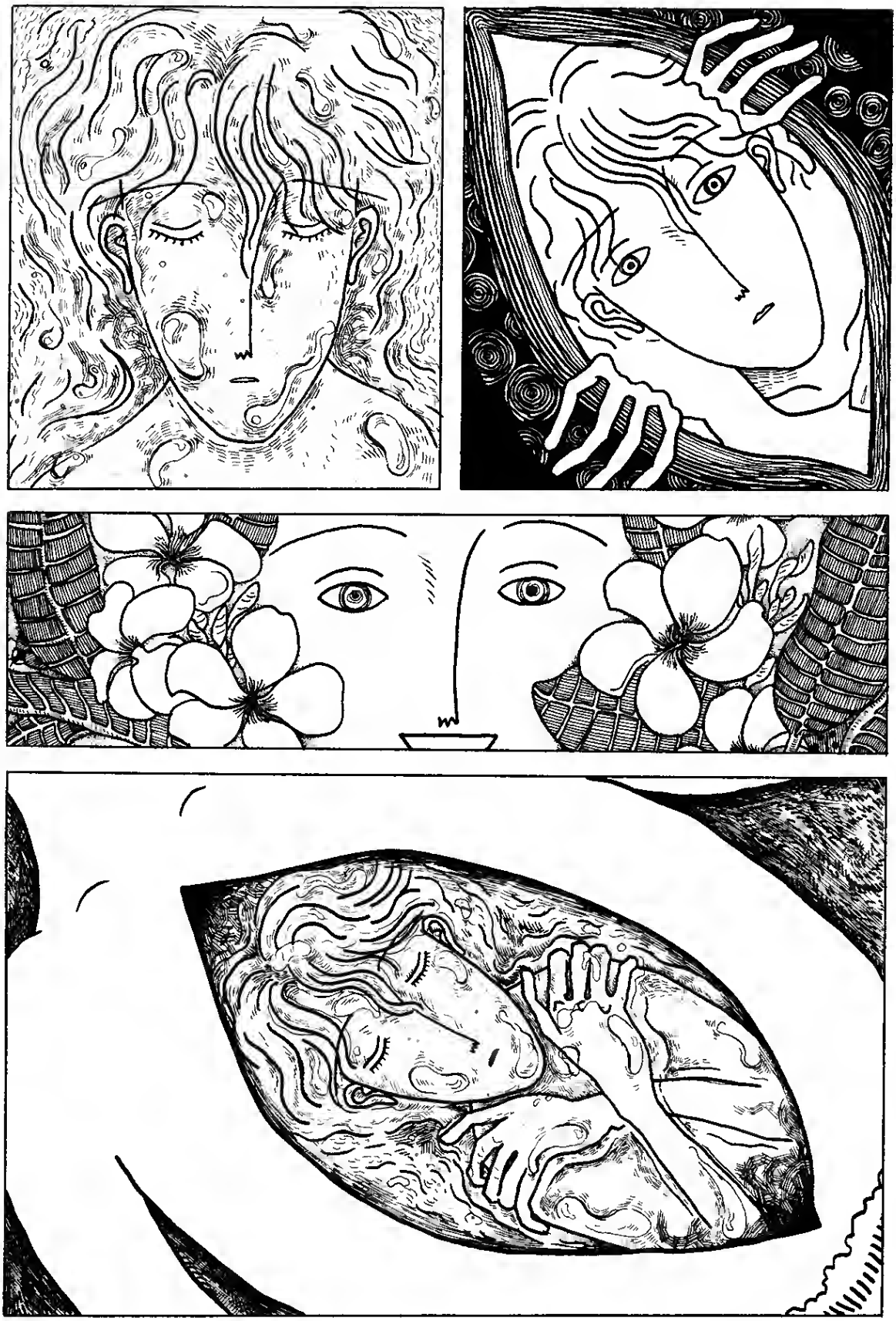
NOT SOMEONE SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING OR SOMEONE WHO LIKES WALKS...

I... I FINALLY FOUND IT.

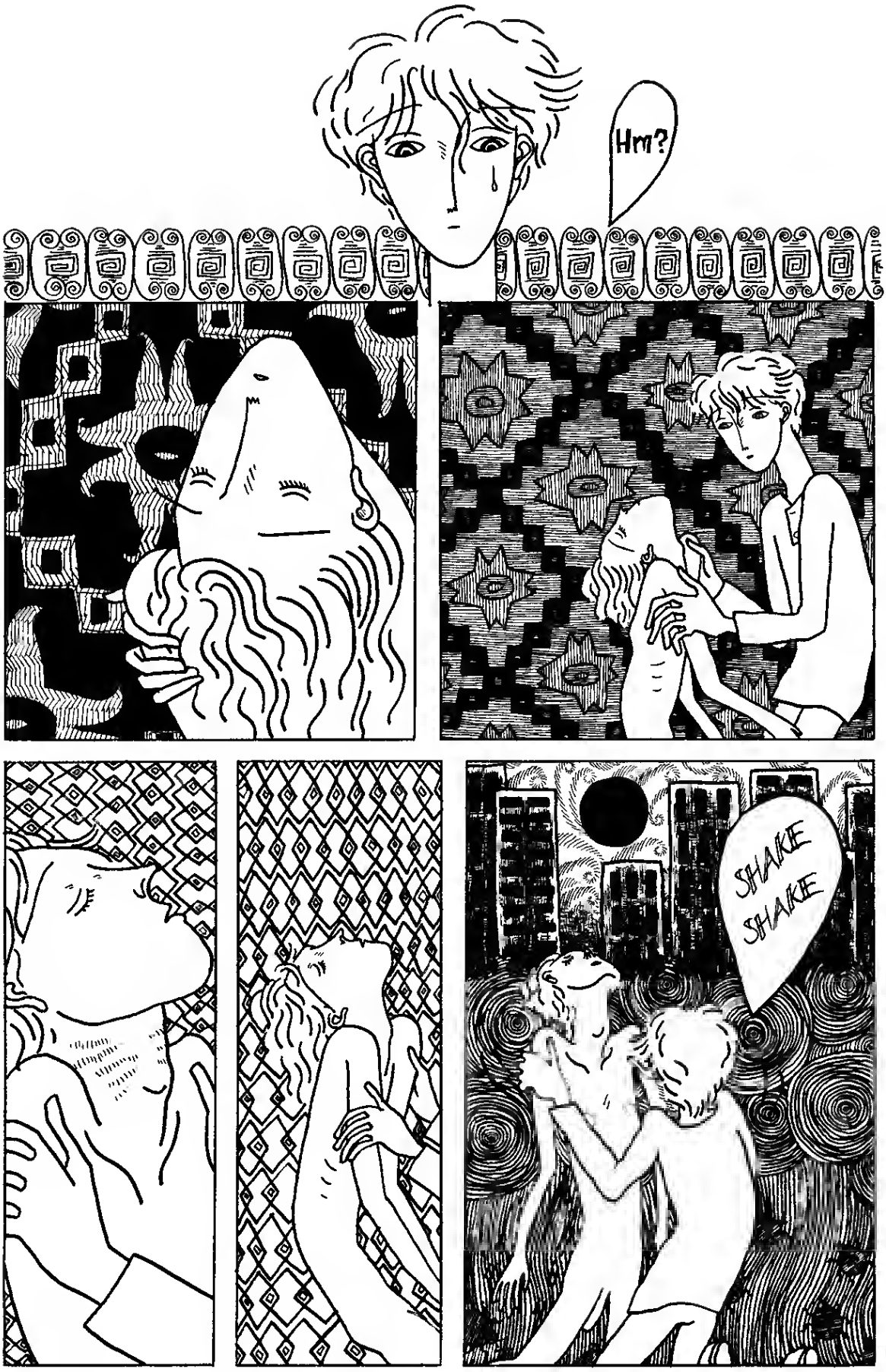
I CAN BE ME.

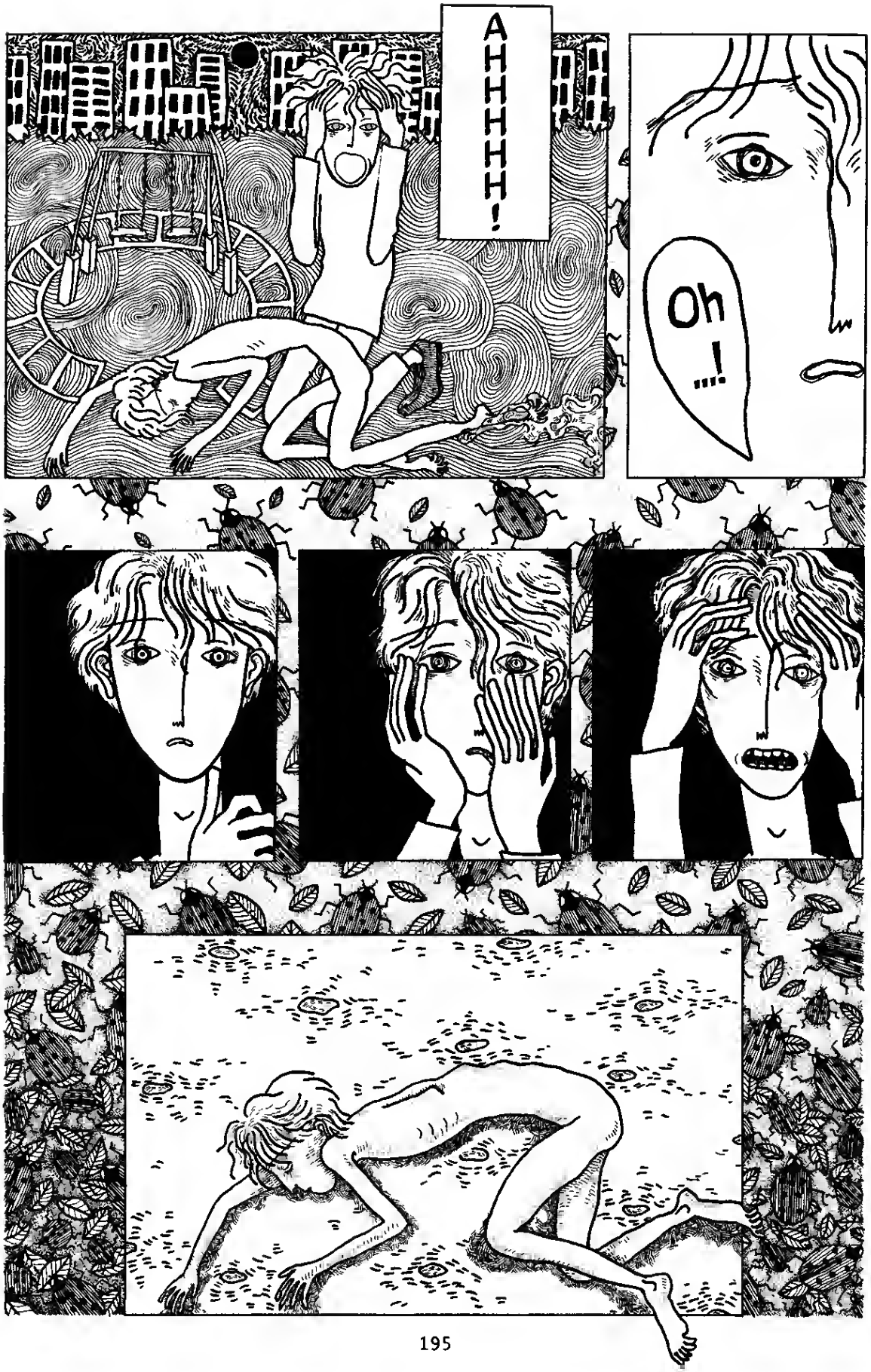
NOW I CAN BECOME ME.

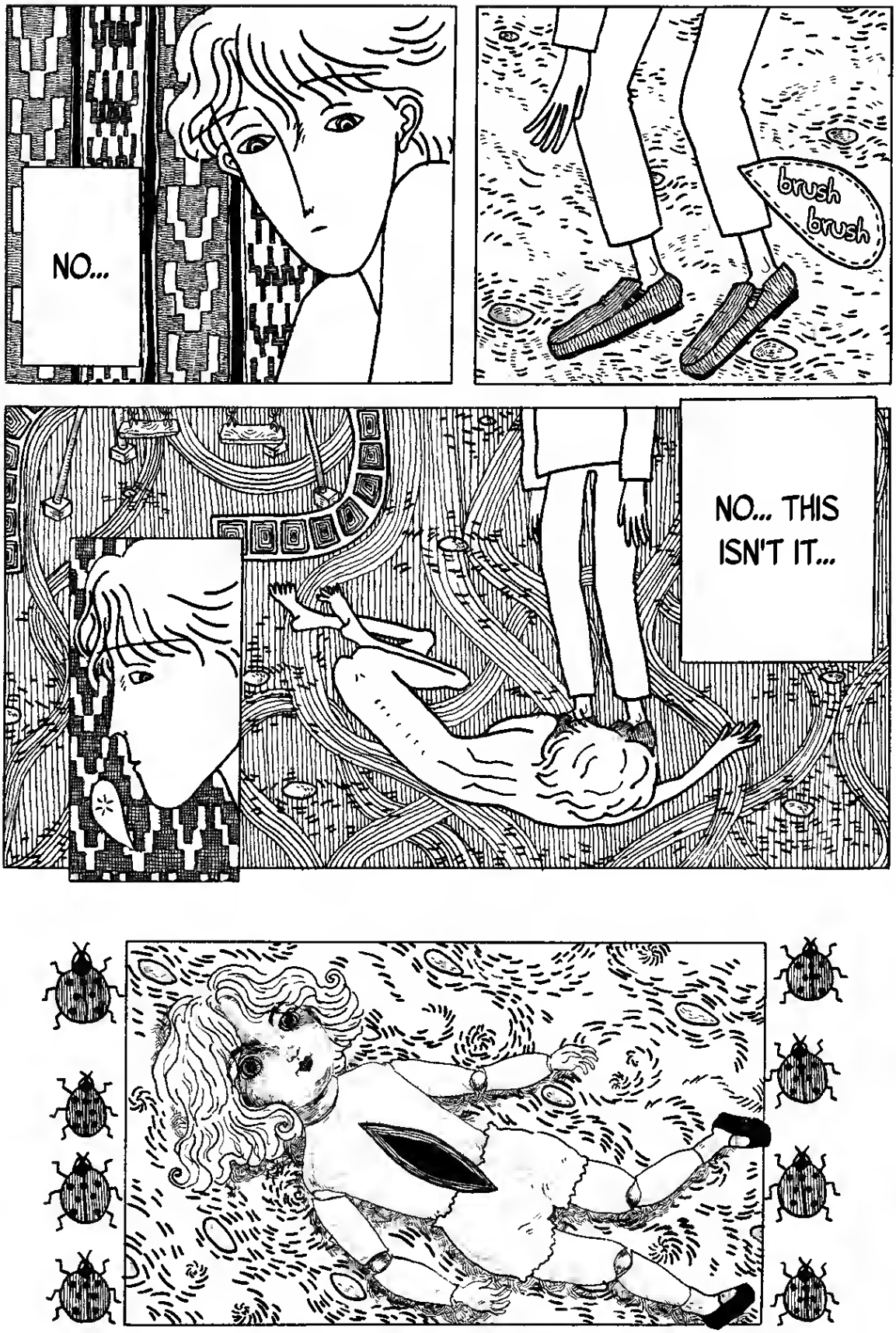

badump
badump
slice!
STAB



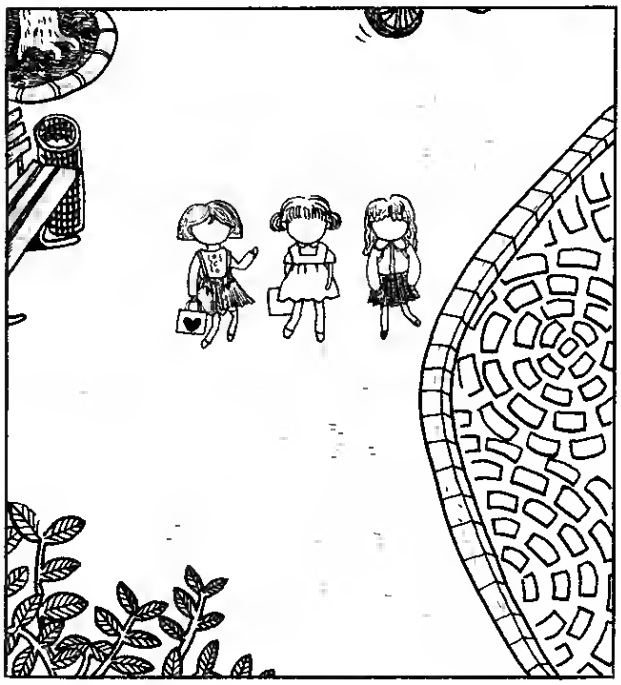
GET

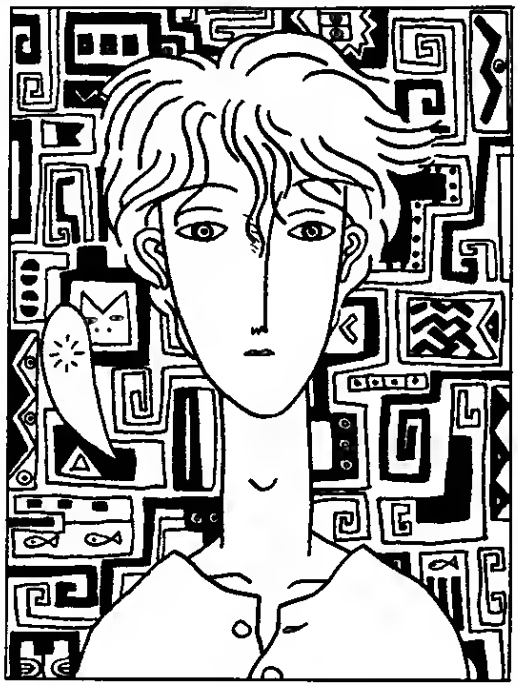

Hm?
SHAKE
SHAKE


AHHHH!
Oh ...!

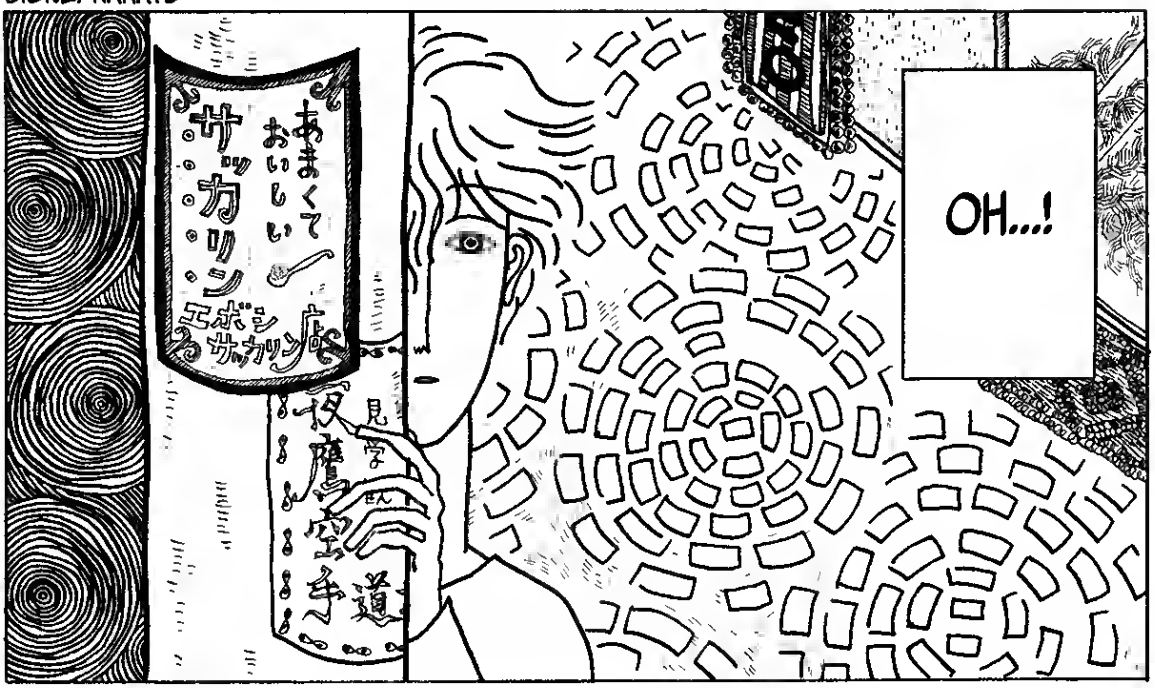

NO...
brush
brush
NO... THIS
ISN'T IT...

AND SO I TAKE A WALK AGAIN TODAY.
.....





SIGN 1: SWEET AND DELICIOUS//SACCHARINE
SIGN2: KARATE



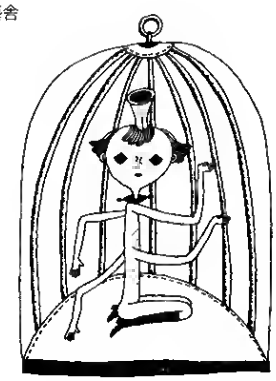
The End

◆初出◆

ジャンプ――「ガロ」96年6月号／青林堂
ぼく虫――「ガロ」91年11月号
ある金属バット自殺――「ガロ」91年12月号
モノノ置キ場所――「ガロ」92年11月号
鳥籠――「ガロ」92年9月号
風の吹いている日――「ガロ」94年12月号
雨の降っている日――「ガロ」95年2月号
日曜日――「ガロ」93年7月号
誕生日――「ガロ」92年12月号
殺人鬼Pの呪い――「ガロ」95年11月号
夜――「ガロ」94年2月号
夜――「ガロ」94年9月号
針金――「ガロ」91年10月号
神経――「モーニング」89年11月16日号／講談社
カンガルーの末裔――「モーニング」89年11月9日号
罪びと――「モーニング」89年11月2日号

口絵表――西岡千晶氏のスケッチブックより（92年～97年）
口絵裏――「アックス」vol.15（00年6月30日発行）／青林工藝舎

※本書は、2001年にトムズボックスから出版された「ぼく虫」を加筆・修正し、
単行本未収録作を加え再構成したものです。



◆ 西岡兄妹初期作品集 ◆ **ぼく虫**

2003年5月25日　初版第1刷発行

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TEL 03-3352-0471（営業部） 03-5363-5920（編集部）
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ISBN4-88379-132-7